I/E. B-ROLL OF QUINN SAUNDERS

Upbeat, royalty-free pop music plays while QUINN SAUNDERS (31, Botox blond in Balenciaga) mugs for the camera in B-roll of her driving in a lime convertible

QUINN (V.O.)

Some of you watching may already know me. The rest of you are clearly out of touch!

Quinn in fluffy boxing gloves, beating up a punching bag in slo-mo. Quinn standing on a Hollywood Hills mansion balcony, clinking glasses of champagne with identical women--

QUINN (V.O.)

My name is Quinn Saunders, and I'm the hottest bitch on the hit show, Unreal Estate (no offense, girls!).

--then screaming at the same women. Cut to Quinn driving on Fairfax Ave., past a billboard featuring her standing and six other Barbie women and two tough looking twin men in suits. Billboard reads "UNREAL ESTATE: You Won't Believe These Houses. Season 6, Coming to Netflix." Shot of Quinn smirking in oversized Prada shades.

QUINN (V.O.)

I moved to LA to pursue film and TV, but as it turns out, I'm a genius at selling houses. Now that I've married rich, and gained fame as a real estate agent and reality star, I'm ready to return to my dreams of becoming famous for something totally different: acting! This show is about my life, as I try to get out of reality, and into movies! Hope you brought your shades—

Shot of Quinn in the backseat of a limo, among billowing white feathered fabric. She turns to camera, limo stops.

QUINN (CONT'D)

Stars shine bright.

She lowers her Versace sunglasses and steps out of the car into an adoring crowd. She's a column of glittering white body-conscious beaded silk charmeuse utterly blown out in silhouette from flashing lights. She lifts her arms, and the title of the show sparkles above her

SUPER: QUINNTESSENTIAL.

EXT. ACTING STUDIO - DAY

Sexy, fun pop music plays over shots of Los Angeles.

LYRICS

I'm a hot girl, I'm a, I'm a hot girl / Big bags, rag to riches in a mini skirt / I'm a hot girl, hot hot hot girl / Don't blink, made ya think, yeah I'm known to flirt--

Music fades. A sign outside a sun-filled studio reads, "Acting Through Your Botox - Level 2."

JANICE (V.O.)

So the main focus here is gonna be micro-expressions.

INT. ACTING STUDIO - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

The inside of the studio is empty save for some fold out chairs. Eight women sit in athletic gear, on the floor and draped on the chairs. Lower third of "JANICE - Post-Procedure Performance Specialist."

JANICE

If you're struggling to express an emotion, overcompensating with an extreme reaction is going to read as disingenuous. All the audience is seeing is the effort, and not the emotion. Watch this. Erin, scream in agony, like you just saw your entire village burned to the ground.

ERIN squeezes her face as best she can and shrieks, mostly unmovingly.

JANICE (CONT'D)

Okay. Now feel anguish, and only say it with your eyes.

ERIN stares blankly ahead. Everyone else in the class nods, epiphanies all around.

JANICE (CONT'D)

See the difference there?

Quinn enters in black workout gear with Schiaparelli dimpled gold accessories. She jingles as she walks. High pony.

OUINN

Good morning, everyone.

JANICE

It's 2PM.

Close-up of Quinn reacting as if it was a passive-aggressive comment. Conflict-building reality music, and cutting between Quinn and the student's face. The other students look at each other. Quinn takes in a breath. The music crescendos.

QUINN

Ok.

JANICE

Hi Quinn, just in time for an exercise. Circle up!

The students all get up, Quinn sets her bag down on a piano in the corner of the room, it makes a discordant gong, and she joins the others in the circle.

JANICE (CONT'D)

You're all going to play the same woman, speaking one word at a time each, going around the circle. You want a divorce. I'm your husband Harold. Speak to me. Go.

She points.

STUDENT 1

I-

STUDENT 2

am-

STUDENT 3

not-

STUDENT 4

happy.

STUDENT 5

Why-

STUDENT 6

can't-

STUDENT 7

we-

STUDENT 8

ever-

It's Quinn's turn. She draws a blank. Everyone stares at her.

JANICE

(in character)

WHAT, Ellen?! Why can't we ever what?!

QUINN

Uh-

JANICE

Finish your sentence!

It's unclear if Janice is in character, but she's getting angry.

QUINN

I don't know what to say!

JANICE

(furious)

You sound like an *idiot*! What are you, dumb?! What are you trying to tell me?!

Janice scoffs, laughs passive aggressively.

QUINN

Why are you laughing at me? Wait, are you in character right now?

JANICE

Every time you talk to me, I want to blow my fucking brains out.

STUDENT 1

Tf-

STUDENT 2

we-

QUINN

Wait, I didn't say my word yet.

There are street protests outside the window of the studio.

JANICE

I think you've said enough, you damn bimbo!

QUINN

I'm sorry, I really can't tell if you're in character right now, and it's weirding me out.

STUDENT 1

Forget-

STUDENT 2

that-

STUDENT 3

I—

STUDENT 4

said-

STUDENT 5

anything.

STUDENT 6

I'm-

STUDENT 7

sorry-

STUDENT 8

Harold.

QUINN

(beat)

Ok.

JANICE

Excellent work everyone. Okay, looks like we're-

QUINN (V.O.)

Wait, stop.

The show pauses.

INT. EDITOR'S ROOM - DAY.

Camera pulls out, the shot is on an editor's screen. Quinn is over his shoulder with a couple producers behind her, in a stuffy editing room. She's dressed down, in SAVAGE X FENTY.

QUINN

Sorry. I just look so stupid here. Can we re-cut that?

EDITOR

To make you smarter?

QUINN

No, like. I don't know, give me a word to say like the other girls.

LEX (32, casual snob producer) and ALEC (36, nearly identical but with different facial hair, producer) in.

LEX

I'm not sure you should be involved in the edit; it could turn this into like, I don't know, propaganda.

ALEC

Quinn, the point of this show is that it shows the real you.

QUINN

Okay, well like, that's not the real me; the real me gets it. I wasn't feeling myself that day. Like, I was off, so can we just recut it? And I said a lot of words, so just use one of those.

Alec fidgets. Lex rolls his eyes.

LEX

Yeah, sure. It's not that important of a scene, anyway.

EDITOR

Let me see what I can do.

He clicks around a bit.

INT. ACTING STUDIO - DAY

Smash cut back into the middle of the last scene in the acting studio.

STUDENT 5

Why-

STUDENT 6

can't-

STUDENT 7

we-

STUDENT 8

ever-

(choppy reality show editing)

QUINN

Laughing-

JANICE

Excellent-

STUDENT 1

Forget-

STUDENT 2

that-

STUDENT 3

I—

STUDENT 4

said-

QUINN

Sorry--

STUDENT 6

I'm—

QUINN

Weird—

STUDENT 8

Harold.

JANICE

Excellent-

QUINN

I'm-

Cut.

QUINN (CONT'D)

in character right now-

JANICE

Excellent-

EXT. ACTING STUDIO - DAY

Quinn exits, ponytail bouncing, in big sunglasses.

QUINN (V.O.)

Because I had been working so hard, I decided to have some much needed me-time at the spa, with Livonia, my manager.

Pop music plays, spanning shots of Los Angeles: people getting gigantic coffees, Labradoodles getting blowouts, uniformed movers on the street hauling giant martini glasses.

LYRICS

Don'tcha mess with me, I got my dreams in sight / I'm not here to rumble, you don't wanna start a fight... I'm feeling CRAY-ZAY--

EXT. SPA - DAY

Quinn enters the spa, and LIVONIA (A-list hot, perfect blowout, styled like an architectural digest model, makes Quinn look like a troll by comparison) is already there checking in. She turns around with a broad smile.

LIVONIA

Hiii, babe! How was acting class?!

LOWER THIRD: "Livonia Rust, Quinn's Manager." She hugs Quinn.

QUINN

It was n--

Choppy cut.

QUINN (CONT'D)

Great and--

Choppy cut.

QUINN (CONT'D)

I'm ready--

Sudden cut to Livonia.

LIVONIA

I booked us a whole thing, so let's get relaxed, because I have some fabulous news for you.

QUINN

(same cut as above)

I'm ready--

They walk into dressing rooms. Soothing, sexy music plays, B-roll of hot stones, lotus flowers, and jade rollers on bare skin. Cut to massage tables. Livonia and Quinn lay down in towels, "fresh faced" (only 45 mins of makeup). The faceless masseurs lay their hands on their backs and rub away, as the two face each other on their stomachs.

MASSEUR 1 (O.S.)

Haven't I seen you in movies?

QUINN

Haha, no, I haven't booked a role
quite yet!

MASSEUR 1 (O.S.)

Oh, sorry, I meant her.

Quinn smiles through her discomfort.

LIVONIA

Oh my gosh, no--I'm more behind the scenes, to help my stars shine!

She gives a glimmering smile, puts out her hand and grabs Quinn's for a moment. They smile at each other.

QUINN

So tell me about this opportunity you mentioned? Please say it's something for HBO.

LIVONIA

Well, not yet, but it just might be, before long!

QUINN

Ooo, details! I'm so excited for my first big role in scripted TV!

She loves doing exposition.

LIVONIA

Okay, so there's a little show on right now called Secession --

QUINN

STOP!

Quinn shoots up. The masseur pushes her back down with a thump.

QUINN (CONT'D)

Am I going to be on Secession?!

LIVONIA

Okay not quite. But they're having a huge wrap party for season 3, at the Beverly Hills Chateau this weekend. QUINN

Oh.

She gets a rough rub from the masseur.

QUINN (CONT'D)

Ow!

LIVONIA

And I think it would be a good idea for you to go, and meet some of the show-runners.

QUINN

Okay...

MASSEUR 2 (O.S.)

(to Quinn)

You're very tense.

QUINN

I've been working really hard.

LIVONIA

Oh my god, me, too. I feel like I'm on the clock 24/7.

MASSEUR 1 (0.S.)

(to Livonia)

You're not tense at all. Like massaging a ripe papaya.

LIVONIA

Wow, thank you!

Quinn tries to smile.

QUINN

I don't know, I don't really like those Hollywood parties. I feel like I've done a lot of schmoozing and I'm ready to just like, audition more, you know?

LIVONIA

Unfortunately, it's all about who you know. For better or for worse, this is the business side of show business.

(beat)

You do want to be an actress, right?

Tense music builds. Shots of Quinn looking pensive and spaced out intersperse with shots of Livonia looking inquisitive. Drums beat. A crescendo builds. Sharp strings, then quiet.

QUINN

(beat)

I mean, yeah.

LIVONIA

Oh my god, babe I was just kidding with you.

They both laugh. A woman approaches off screen.

FAN (O.S.)

Hi, sorry, can I get an autograph?
I'm just such a huge fan.

QUINN

Oh my gosh, of course!

Quinn starts to get up.

FAN (0.S.)

Oh, sorry. I meant her...

Livonia and Quinn look at each other awkwardly.

LIVONIA

I'm... I'm not a celebrity.

FAN

Oh my gosh. I thought you were, from across the room. And I saw the cameras, so...

LIVONIA

Well, she is! Quinn Saunders, from the show *Unreal Estate*? This is actually her show that we're filming!

FAN

Oh. Ohhhh. Oh wow. I didn't even realize it was you!

QUINN

Yeah! Haha, I'm making my own show now, and sort of pivoting my career away from re--

FAN

(interrupting)

You were such a bitch to Petra last season. She was going through the terrible loss of her step-uncle.

QUINN

I--

FAN

He died in a pirranha attack, and you didn't even care. Petra is so pure, and you're so manipulative.

QUINN

They gave me a really ungenerous edit.

FAN

You called her a conniving dumpster troll. She grew up on a boat—do you have any idea how hard that is?

Quinn rolls her eyes and takes in a deep breath to slander.

LIVONIA

(to the fan)

Hey, sorry to interrupt, I can tell you're super passionate! Since we're all here to relax, why don't I treat you to a facial to loosen up, huh?

FAN

(switching gears)

That is soooooo sweet. Wow. You're like, a total angel. Thank you. You should really act, by the way. So pretty.

LIVONIA

Oh my gosh, thank you--but I'm much more behind-the-scenes. I don't do well in front of cameras.

FAN

You're like, magnetic.

LIVONIA

That is so sweet! Thank y--

OUINN

(interrupting)

We're getting massages right now, just trying to relax a bit, so maybe you wouldn't mind going?

FAN

Wow. Okay...

QUINN

Bye.

The fan walks away, offended. Sigh. Beat.

LIVONIA

Wow, looks like we have some PR work to do. But first, pedicures!

QUINN (O.S.)

Much needed.

ALEC (O.S.)

Hey, sorry. Quinn, can you say that again? We didn't get a shot of you saying it.

The camera focuses on Quinn.

QUINN

Oh sure. Ahem.

(beat)

Much needed.

We pan over to behind the cameras, and there's an entire filming crew in the middle of this spa. ALEX, ALEC, and LEX, three basically identical producers, are looking at the recordings, whispering to camera guys, and coaching Quinn.

LEX

Can you do a little more emphasis on "much?" Make it feel like you're more relieved.

QUINN

MUCH need--

ALEX

LEX

Whoa! A little intense.

Pull it way back.

QUINN

Much needed.

ALEC

(to other producers)
How's that?

ALEX

It's fine, let's just move on.

Livonia gives a thumbs up. Quinn wonders what she did wrong. Upbeat pop music builds.

LYRICS

Take a look at my rings / you like how they bling-bling? / I'm a total woman, the whole package, makin' stacks. / My love is ludicrous, ludicrous. Ludicrous, ludicrous...

B-Roll of L.A., rich women pushing strollers with dogs in them, purses with dogs in them, dogs at the wheel of parked cars, dogs getting manicures. An exterior shot of Quinn's home in the Hollywood Hills. Lower third reads "Quinn & Curtis' Multi-Million Dollar Hollywood Hills Home."

INT. QUINN & CURTIS'S HOUSE - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

CURTIS (55, with mid-life-crisis good looks, producer in early retirement) stands in the kitchen on a cell phone, with a small towel over his shoulder, sauteing chickpeas and cherry tomatoes. Quinn enters, sloughing her trash-bag-sized leather tote onto the counter. Lower third reads "Curtis: Semi-Retired Producer, Quinn's Husband of 8 months."

CURTIS

(on phone)

Listen I don't want to get involved with the guild--if they don't want their people shooting on an active volcano, we can just find locals.

He notices Quinn.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Dana, I gotta go. Don't get lava in your hair.

He sets his phone down.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Hey, how's it going?

QUINN

(Exasperated)

Like, hell, honestly.

CURTIS

I'm sorry to hear that—did you accidentally eat soy?

He focuses on the pan, and flames snap up as he tosses the chickpeas.

QUINN

No, no. I was just with Livonia, and she--

CURTIS

(interrupting)

She's gorgeous, isn't she?

QUINN

Umm... Yeah. Yeah she's great. Anyway, she told me I need to go to this party to network and--

CURTIS

Oh that's great! You love parties.

He grips her shoulder a bit, giving her a pat on the back like a little league player.

QUINN

When they're mine, I do. But I just hate all this, ya know, networking stuff.

She leans on the counter near the stove flirtatiously.

QUINN (CONT'D)

I mean, ya know, you're a producerrrr...

CURTIS

Retired.

QUINN

A semi-retired producerrrr, and I don't know, don't you think you could just like, shoe-whore me into one of your friends movies?

CURTIS

You mean shoehorn?

QUINN

Ew, it's horn?

CURTTS

Quinn, I can't do that.

QUINN

This business is all about who you know, and I know youuu...

She bats her eyes flirtatiously.

QUINN (CONT'D)

And you're my hubby so, I think it just makes sense.

Curtis turns off the heat, and dumps the steaming mixture into a bowl.

CURTIS

Quinn, I can't risk my reputation like that. You know I want the best for you, but you don't have the right experience to skip to the finish line.

QUINN

I've been taking classes, I have experience in front of the camera, I look good in makeup, what else could you possibly expect of an actress?

He squeezes a lime over the dish. He takes a bite.

CURTIS

(beat)

You have cars, you have money, you have me, we eat sushi, we go to different islands. Why on earth do you want to be an actress, Quinn?

Dramatic sting. Tense reality show music plays over reaction shots between Curtis and Quinn. Thumping drums and strings crescendo then halt. Beat.

QUINN

So that I can be in movies.

CURTIS

I'm serious, Quinn. I know it looks glamorous or whatever, but it's hard work. And you don't need to work. So why bother?

Quinn pauses, taken aback.

QUINN

I... need more. I can't have my last thing be *Unreal Estate*.

CURTIS

What, and do some B movie and have that be your legacy instead?

He chomps on another spoonful.

QUINN

Curtis, I don't understand why you can't just get one of your producer buddies to put me in something. It doesn't even have to be a big role. I just need my foot on a door.

Curtis sighs.

CURTTS

It's foot in the door.

QUINN

That's what I said.

CURTIS

I don't know of any roles that umm... you'd be the right fit for.

QUINN

Fine. Well will you at least come to the party with me?

She sticks out her hand.

CURTIS

Umm. I gotta check some stuff first.

Really, really sad R&B music plays. Edited together shots of Quinn looking disappointed, Curtis's reactions, and the sun setting over LA.

LYRICS

I don't know how much longer I can play cruel games. / Ooo, I'm out, I'm gone, I'm dead, alone, no more, I'm not the same--

Sun rises, cars zoom around, girls taking selfies next to car crashes. A sunny Melrose morning.

EXT. "ISAAC'S" - DAY

Exterior shot of discreet storefront on Melrose--"if you know, you know" type of joint. Lower third reads "Isaac's: Private A-List Celebrity Styling."

INT. ISAAC'S - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

DANIELLA BLANC-SLATE (30-ish... to 40-ish... expressionless friend of Quinn's with tense body language) sits in a plush over-designed chair, her glassy eyes looking straight ahead like she's in an interrogation. Lower third reads "Daniella Blanc-Slate: Real Estate Agent, Co-Star of Unreal Estate, and Quinn's BFFN (Best Friend For Now). Quinn steps out from behind a curtain in a dazzling, curve-hugging gold chainmail dress with sky-high gold heels. She stands before a mirror admiring herself. ISAAC (39, gelled coiff and popped collar) stands by, at service.

OUINN

Hmm what do we think?

DANIELLA

You look gorgeous. I love this color on you.

OUINN

I think I look better in platinum, than I do in gold.

DANIELLA

Totally, the color is so wrong.

Daniella nods assertively, totally unsure of herself.

QUINN

The shoes are cute though.

DANIELLA

Yeah, I was gonna say: the shoes are perfect.

QUINN

But do they say, "Hollywood Actress?"

She turns to Daniella, who holds back terror.

DANIELLA

Umm. I mean, I think...

Quinn stares.

DANIELLA (CONT'D)

Yes?

QUINN

No.

DANIELLA

Totally, that's what I meant: no. They look like a plumber's shoe. Totally wrong.

ISAAC

Let me go grab some other options— I have some pieces that I think will be total perfection!

QUINN

Thanks, babe.

He walks off. Quinn turns to Daniella.

QUINN (CONT'D)

Gay guys are so supportive!
 (switches tone)
Unlike CURTIS.

She rolls her eyes.

DANIELLA

Wait, is Curtis gay?

QUINN

What?! Ew, no.

DANIELLA

You just said he's an unsupportive gay guy, and now you're not-- something isn't adding up.

QUINN

That's not what I said.

Intense drama-building reality show drum music plays, cutting between suspicious reaction shots of Quinn and Danielle.

CUT TO:

INT. CONFESSIONAL - N/A

Daniella faces the camera, sitting in a plush, red vinyl chair, with an ornate beehive chignon and pink pantsuit covered in bows. She's shocked.

DANIELLA

I was so shocked at Quinn's reaction.

(MORE)

DANIELLA (CONT'D)

I'm always going to say what's on my mind, so I decided to clear the air.

CUT TO:

INT. ISAAC'S - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Drum music crescendos, then suddenly cuts.

DANIELLA

Oh... ok.

QUINN

He's just not like, being on my team right now. And I need people to be in my--

DANIELLA

In your ballpark.

OUINN

Exactly.

Isaac re-enters with a few options.

ISAAC

Okay so I pulled some fun thinggggggs, but nothing too crazy.

The girls look over and smile with excitement.

LEX (O.S.)

What about something like that?

Quinn, Daniella, and Isaac look to the left of the camera. A hand gestures out-of-focus to a wall at the back of the room. Quinn looks over, and sees an opulent, layered, orange dress with a long train.

QUINN

Oh wow.

ISAAC

Hmm, that's more of a... statement look.

LEX

Right, but this is a big night for Quinn. A huge opportunity. Don't you think it would be good to be making a statement?

QUINN

I mean... it's a pretty color, but it's kind of a lot.

T.F.X

You don't want to go unnoticed, right? It' sa surefire way of standing out. You've never shied away from being attention-grabbing.

QUINN

Umm. Well, I--

LEX

I think you should be your honest self. And that honest self is fabulous, outrageous, and charming.

ISAAC

(dubious)

I'm worried that dress might be...

Sudden cut to a previous take.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

(excited)

--total perfection!

Quinn walks over to the dress and touches the gown, considering. She looks over at Daniella.

QUINN

What do you think?

All eyes on Daniella. Her worst nightmare.

DANIELLA

I... think it's...

Alex & Alec pipe in.

ALEX

Daniella, remember in the last season when Petra got married? What was the theme of their wedding again?

DANIELLA

Fairytale Forever Happiness.

ALEC

And remember after the blowout at the reception, where Quinn kicked Petra's bouquet into the... god, what's it called again?

DANIELLA

Gutter?

ALEC

Yes. Thank you.

Alex and Alec whisper and point at the cameras, a PA takes notes. The scene rewinds and resets a few lines back.

Quinn walks over to the dress and touches the gown, considering. She looks over at Daniella.

QUINN

What do you think?

All eyes on Daniella.

DANIELLA

I... think it's...
 (choppy cut)
--utter?
 (choppy cut)
Fairytale!

ISAAC

Total perfection.

DANIELLA

--for this
 (choppy cut)
event.

Quinn ponders. Exciting music plays.

LYRICS

A shadow in the wind is picking up speed / I got my eyes on you, because you know what I need / It's a bolt of lightning, an electric shock / I'm a woman on fire, and I'm making it HOT HOT HOT HOT HOT HOT HOT (WOO!) HOT HOT HOT HOT HOT OWOO!) HOT HOT HOT HOT HOT (WOO!) HOT, I be making it HOT (baby, WOO!).

B-roll of the sunset strip at night: Spiderman poses with a couple tourists, three white limos in a car crash negotiating insurance papers, sweeping footage of glittering Hollywood Hills. A mansion. Lower third: Secession Wrap Party. The music continues as a black SUV pulls up. The backseat door opens and a strappy gold heel extends. Camera pans up to the beat of the music, revealing the miraculous and opulent, marigold column of Quinn. She climbs the steps and opens the door smiling. An out-of-focus red Solo cup in the foreground. Her visage melts as the door closes behind her. The camera swoops around to reveal the house party--women wearing jeans and sneakers coiled up on sofas. Dance music plays. People glance at her a bit confused, but mostly ignore her. Curtis is already there talking to a buddy, laughing. He sees Quinn, and speedwalks over to her, in shock.

CURTIS

Umm... hi, what the hell are you doing?

QUINN

I... wanted to make a statement?

She looks over at Lex. He gives a thumbs up.

CURTIS

This is exactly why... do you have something else you can change into?

QUINN

What, and re-enter the party? Everyone has already seen me.

CURTIS

It's a wrap party, not a red carpet.

Livonia walks over. She's very put together, but casual.

LIVONIA

Baaaaabe, you look so freaking gorgeous!

They hug, Quinn looks a bit more comforted.

QUINN

Thank you, but I'm fucking humiliated.

LIVONIA

Listen, you're larger than life, so it's only right that you would make an impact!

They laugh together.

LIVONIA (CONT'D)

Okay, I can't find the Network head right now, but I want you to talk to Michael, one of the writers.

Quinn perks up.

QUINN

Oh perfect. Where is he?

LIVONIA

Riiiiight over there.

She gestures to a man talking to another woman, who is dressed in a cream-colored two-piece bodycon dress. Nice, but not too nice. She turns over her shoulder to look towards Quinn and company. Shocking strings play. Lower third: "Petra Liams, Co-Star of *Unreal Estate*, Quinn's Rival." Reaction shots of Quinn and Petra.

QUINN

(to Livonia)

What. The. Fuck. Is she doing here?

LIVONIA

I'm going to introduce you, it'll be fine, just relax. You got this.

Quinn steels herself and shuffles over.

LIVONIA (CONT'D)

Michael!! This is Quinn. I've been dying for you to meet!

MICHAEL

Oh! Hello. That's quite a dress.

QUINN

Well, I never like to go halfway with anything. I love to commit.

PETRA

(under breath)

Commit perjury.

QUINN

Hi, Petra. How's it going?

Quinn opens her arms for a hug. Petra puts a hand up.

PETRA

I'm fine.

Quinn puts her arms down.

LIVONIA

Quinn is a huuuuge fan of Secession.

QUINN

Absolutely *loved* this season! I think Alberto needs a new love interest, though.

She smiles big.

MICHAEL

Funny you say that, Petra and I were just discussing the same thing.

QUINN

What a coincidence! It's like she stole the thought right out of my head. You're familiar with stealing, right Petra?

PETRA

(petulant)

Are you talking about the house on Grainer?? You botched your own sale. You cussed out your client, and lied to his wife about having an affair to try to save face?! What was I supposed to do, just let the place sit another six months before you found someone else to tour it with? This is a serious business, Quinn. Besides, that was like, 2 years ago at this point.

QUINN

Yeah, I can't believe you're still obsessed with it.

PETRA

Obsessed with it?! You brought it up!

OUINN

I never, ever said those words.

MICHAEL

Looks like you ladies have a lot to discuss! I'm going to go... say hi to some of the guys.

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Petra, it was a pleasure, we look forward to having you on new season!

PETRA

Nice to meet you, Michael.

She hugs him and gives him a kiss on the cheek, and a smiley wave goodbye. She smiles at Quinn. Quinn stares at her blankly. Pregnant tension. Even Livonia is shocked.

QUINN

You've gotta be kidding me. I need a fucking drink.

Quinn shuffles over to the corner of the room, her dress knocking over plastic cups on low tables. She takes a seat at an in-home bar, behind which a bartender tends to the shelves below the bar. He's about 50, wearing a tucked in button-down with red, yellow, and white stripes.

QUINN (CONT'D)

This place feels like a temple of bad taste.

BARTENDER

Huh?

QUINN

Gray walls? That velvet sectional? Those chunky side tables? It's like someone went shopping on Craigslist blindfolded, then died, then got resurrected by Jonathan Adler and stole every remaining set piece from Chandler's apartment on Friends.

BARTENDER

Oh wow.

QUINN

Anyway, lemme get a margarita, extra contreau.

BARTENDER

Uh--okay.

He seems offended, but begins making a drink. Quinn is confused by his reaction but shrugs it off. A couple people walk by.

GIRL 1

Oh my gosh, I love your dress! Where did you just come from?!

QUINN

Hh? My house.

GIRL 1

Oh my god, you're hilarious. I hope you had a fun night.

She gestures to the bartender.

GIRL 1 (CONT'D)

Eddie, I'm headed out--thank you so much!

EDDIE

All good, have a safe night.

He hands a drink to Quinn, wipes off his hands, and gets ready to walk away from the bar. Quinn takes a sip and spits it out all over him.

QUINN

Jesus christ, I said extra contreau, this tastes like Pine-Sol!

He looks aghast.

EDDIE

You just... spat all over me.

QUINN

What the hell did you put in this?!

EDDIE

I don't know, that stuff.

He gestures to margarita mix and triple sec.

QUINN

Triple sec!? TRIPLE SEC?! What do I look like, a prisoner of war?! Can you just give me some tequila and lime? I can't drink this poison.

EDDIE

Make your own fucking drink, asshole.

OUINN

Excuse me!? Did you just call me an asshole??

EDDIE

Could you not hear me through the ruffles of that stupid fucking princess gown? Fuck. Off.

OUINN

Who do you think you're talking to, you fucking peanut? What are you? Like a thousand years old, trying to make a life for yourself at a HOUSE PARTY?! Look at you, you look like a clown secretary, and you can't even make a margarita--a drink designed so that even a third grader couldn't fuck it up. I shouldn't be surprised because your hairline looks like it retreated into infancy anyway. Speaking of which, better get you fitted for diapers because if I were you I'd be shitting myself in fear over my future, because no one will ever hire you as a bartender after tonight!

EDDIE

No one will hire me as a bartender ever, because I'm not a bartender.

QUINN

I'll say.

EDDIE

I'm the head of the network.

The entire room is looking at them in shock. Livonia walks up behind Quinn, and puts her hand on Quinn's shoulder, gently.

LIVONIA

Eddie, this is my client Quinn. Quinn, this is Eddie.

EDDIE

I hope you've enjoyed the party. Next time you come, I'll have better furniture. I promise.

He smiles. Quinn looks ready to throw up. Her eyes well up. She stands up and rushes towards the door, tripping over shoes left around the home, chair legs and cups.

CURTIS

Quinn! Quinn come here for a sec.

She ignores him and heads straight for the front door. The producers try to get ahold of her.

ALEX

ALEC

Quinn! Slow down, slow down.

Wait wait, don't take off your mic. Don't damage the mic.

LEX

Hold up, we need to get cameras outside!

QUINN

You fucking assholes, you set me up!

She swings open the giant double doors of the house, and walks out to where there was a driveway. But there's no driveway. It's a set. She's in a soundstage. Various crew members see her speedwalking, with the producers chasing after her, fumbling with their equipment.

ALEX

ALEC

Quinn, you can't just leave. Quinn! Quinn wait a second. This is the whole point of the show.

(to Lex and Alec)
Are you getting this? We need
to be getting this.

QUINN

You're all fucking demons. SATANIC ASSHOLES. MANIPULATIVE SOCIOPATHS.

She walks up to the double doors beneath an Exit sign.

LEX

Wait! Quinn, stop! This is documentary, this is what your fans want to see!

OUINN

IT'S NOT WHAT I WANT TO SEE! I WANT OT FUCKING DIE!

She pushes the doors open. Daylight does not break through. The doors open to another soundstage, with more crew members, more cameras, and more boom mics. She pushes through them towards an exit sign.

ALEC

Quinn, tell us about what you're feeling right n--

QUINN

(interrupting)

You wanna know how I'm feeling? I'm feeling like you're FUCKING FIRED.

ALEC

LEX

Quinn, calm down.

You wanted us to film your life, this is your life.

QUINN

It's not my goddamn life, shitheads. You ruined everything! The show is over; get it through your evil little goblin brains. Eat shit, and die the way you just watched my career die on your goddamn cameras.

She shoves a craft service table over and pushes another set of doors open. They open onto another set. More crew members.

LEX

Quinn, wait, we can talk. We can edit this--

QUINN

THERE'S NOTHING TO EDIT, BECAUSE THERE IS NO SHOW! LEAVE ME THE FUCK ALONE, YOU PSYCHOS!!!!

She pushes past another set of big doors, that open onto another soundstage. She runs as best she can, crying, pushing past door after door, a never-ending corridor of sets. Cut to black.

INT. QUINN & CURTIS'S HOUSE - DAY

Lonely music plays over quiet shots of Quinn and Curtis's cavernous mansion. Quinn sits on a deck, staring out over the Los Angeles skyline, under a blanket of smog. She cradles a mug with perfect latte art in it.

LYRICS

I'm not sure where to go, oh no / All alone, on my own, oh oh oh / rest assured I'll be here / say a prayer, don't shed a tear --

Quinn's phone buzzes. Livonia's name appears on the screen. She presses the reject button, and stirrs her latte. The phone buzzes again. Livonia is calling again, but Quinn presses reject. She takes a sip of the latte and sets it down. The phone buzzes again. We see the phone with Livonia's name, and the latte art still intact. Quinn rolls her eyes and picks it up, puttig it on speaker phone.

QUINN

Uh-huh?

LIVONIA (O.S.)

Quinn, I'm so sorry about last night.

QUINN

sigh)

Livonia, I really don't think I can talk about this right n--

LIVONIA (O.S.)

But not that sorry.

QUINN

Excuse me?

LIVONIA (O.S.)

You booked.

Beat.

QUINN

What?

LIVONIA (O.S.)

Eddie was personally offended, but the writers and showrunners thought you were so captivating they're writing you into the next season.

QUINN

What?!

She knocks her latte over and stands up.

LIVONIA (O.S.)

Congratulations!!! But also this maybe isn't the best way to--

QUINN

THIS IS AMAZING! I'M FREAKING THE FUCK OUT THANK YOU SO MUCH THANK YOU THANK YOU!!! (MORE)

QUINN (CONT'D)

Okay wait let's talk later, I have to make a quick phone call.

LIVONIA (O.S.)

Okay sure, but just to let you know-

Quinn hangs up, presses some buttons and the phone rings on the other end.

LEX (O.S.)

Hello?

QUINN

Lex? Hey. So umm, about that convo we had last night on the way out--

End.