

Best Intentions Pilot
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INT. JOSIE'S HOUSE / FRONT ROOM -- DAY

Eleanor is pressed up against the front window keeping watch. When she sees Jade and Josie arrive she almost spills her champagne for excitement.

ELEANOR
They're back!

PIPPA
They're back!!

SASKIA
Wooohooo!!!

Eleanor races out.

INT. JOSIE'S HOUSE/ HALLWAY -- DAY

Saskia and Pippa join Eleanor at the front door and assemble as a welcoming committee - all with glasses of champagne. Saskia swings open the front door to reveal Josie and Jade.

SASKIA
Aghhh!!! We're almost ready!
(sing-song)
We've got such a surprise for the
birthday girl...

Jade looks past them deeper into the house--

JADE
Wow, look at our house, mum.

SASKIA
Wait till you see out the back!

PIPPA
It's the piece des resis-de-France!

Pippa, Saskia and Eleanor hurry away. Josie and Jade shrug and follow along.

INT. JOSIE'S HOUSE/ LOUNGE ROOM -- DAY

Saskia is waiting for them flanked by Pippa and Eleanor. They're bursting with excitement and pride.

As Josie and Jade enter they swoon at the transformation the house has taken on.

JOSIE
Saskia, this is very extravagant.

It's been set for a party. Balloons and birthday banners fill the garden, and the table is groaning with food and goodies.

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JOSIE (CONT'D)

I can't believe you managed this while we were gone.

ELEANOR

It's like revolution rescue!

PIPPA

We're just exhausted.

ELEANOR

Exhausted!

CUT TO:

INT. JOSIE'S HOUSE/ LOUNGE ROOM -- EARLIER

Saskia, Pippa, Eleanor drinking and watching the 10 men in shorts work. They are polishing kitchen bench, dusting the oven rangehood and setting the table. Pippa watches the Dusting Man's ass closely

PIPPA

I think you missed a spot.

The gals watch him intently as Saskia pours the champagne.

CUT TO:

INT. JOSIE'S HOUSE/ LOUNGE ROOM -- DAY

ELEANOR

Amazing what ten men in shorts can achieve.

Dusting Man passes carrying a tray of food. Pippa pinches his ass.

JOSIE

Well it's extremely generous.

SASKIA

Are you kidding! This is how "community" works. Now. Before the guests arrive, the girls and I want to give Jade a little something from us.

She rushes away down the hall.

SASKIA (CONT'D)

This way...

Jade shrugs at her mum and they follow.

INT. JADE'S BEDROOM -- DAY

Saskia leads them all into Jade's room. She can barely contain her excitement. She throws her arms towards a large flat screen TV on the wall.

SASKIA/ PIPPA/ ELEANOR
Da dahhh!!!!

Jade can't believe her eyes.

JADE
Oh my god. I love Bayside!

SASKIA
Happy birthday!

JADE
My own TV! You're kidding me!

Josie is reeling. As Jade rushes over to it, she struggles to find words. Saskia beams madly at them, waiting for Josie to say something.

SASKIA
Fully installed.
(to Josie)
Well...? Well!?

JOSIE
Wow... Saskia. This is...

SASKIA
A Sony 4K Ultra High Definition TV
with four times the resolution of
Full HD!!!

JOSIE
...extremely generous.

ELEANOR
Yes!!

JADE
Oh my god thank you!

SASKIA
Happy birthday.

JOSIE
Look, Saskia, girls ... This is
very kind of you... the party...
the trouble you've gone to... but
really. Jade can't accept this.

JADE
Mum!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOSIE
(cautioning)
Jade.
(to Saskia)
A TV? Seriously? She's fifteen.

SASKIA
I know, it's cruel she's never had
one of her own before. Ken said he
could hook up Foxtel by Monday.

JOSIE
Saskia, no! It's too much.

Saskia can't fathom what she's on about.

SASKIA
People need comfort. Without it
they wither on the vine.

JOSIE
I'm sorry. You need to take it
back.

SASKIA
Take it back?! It's already second
hand.

JOSIE
Saskia...

SASKIA
You know what my Mother would say
in these situations...? Walk out of
the room, turn around and by the
time you come back in you'll
already be used to it.

Josie's had enough. She heads for the TV and begins to unplug
it.

JOSIE
Jade. Help me with this.

JADE
MUM! NO!

JOSIE
It's going.

SASKIA
Oh dear god, alright, stop! I can't
bear to see you handling equipment.
We have a man for that. KEN!!?

INT. JOSIE'S BACK YARD -- DAY

The party is in full swing. A clutch of young girls stand around chatting and picking food from platters.

Saskia calls them all to attention, banging a fork on a champagne glass.

SASKIA

Everyone! Everyone! Please can I have your attention! It's been a magnificent party and you're all so grown up and everyone looks so beautiful. Even Jessie Lovegrove who wore Yellow when it really doesn't suit her.

Everyone clocks Jessie Lovegrove--

SASKIA (CONT'D)

Now. We're going to finish off the day with a little party game.

The girls are less than thrilled--

SASKIA (CONT'D)

Okay. Now. Everyone on their feet! This is a game I use at all my fundraisers.

The girls gather before Saskia, curious as to what is about to happen. Josie is especially anxious.

SASKIA (CONT'D)

Now. Sit down... everyone whose Mum drives a Beema.

The girls swap glances and 2 girls sit down. Saskia is thrilled and claps with excitement. Josie is worried about where this might be going.

SASKIA (CONT'D)

Sit down.... Everyone whose Mum drives a Merc.

2 more girls sit down. This leaves 3 girls standing. One is Jade, who is looking increasingly uncomfortable.

SASKIA (CONT'D)

Sit down... Everyone whose mum drives a Porsche.

The remaining 2 girls sit, leaving Jade the only one still standing - humiliated. Everyone stares up at Jade sympathetically. Saskia is reveling in it.

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SASKIA (CONT'D)
 Okay...!! Last one standing...
 birthday girl Jade. Sit down
 everyone whose mum drives... a
 Toyota!

Sheepishly, Jade sits.

SASKIA (CONT'D)
 Well not anymore!!!!

She throws a set of keys to her. Josie suddenly gets it - is horrified.

Saskia races towards the front of the house.

SASKIA (CONT'D)
 Follow me!!!

The party leaps to its feet and follows. Not quite believing what's happening, Josie tags along behind.

EXT. JOSIE'S HOUSE -- DAY

Parked in the driveway is a brand new Merc with a ribbon tied around the roof. The party floods out of the house to behold it. Josie pushes through them and approaches Saskia who is cuddling into Jade. Pippa and Eleanor flank them.

JOSIE
 What's going on Saskia?

SASKIA
 Don't you love it?!

JOSIE
 You know I can't accept it.

SASKIA
 Don't be silly. It's already second hand.

JOSIE
 Saskia...

SASKIA
 Look. Stop. Don't do this. Why must you fight me every step of the way. You're my new best friend!

Pippa and Eleanor look put out.

SASKIA (CONT'D)
 I just want you to have the basics.
 I just want to GIVE!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOSIE

But it's far too generous.

SASKIA

It's not! Rick owns four bloody dealerships. We practically wear these as necklaces.

JOSIE

You can't just give me a car
Saskia, I have a perfectly good
Toyota.

SASKIA

Toyota, Pfft. Jade's a Bayside girl
now. You can't deprive her.

Saskia takes the keys off Jade and squeezes them into Josie's palm.

SASKIA (CONT'D)

Welcome to the neighbourhood!
(as if the discussion
never took place)
Now everyone! Inside and we'll cut
the cake!

The party floods back inside again. As Saskia passes Madison, she whispers in her ear--

SASKIA (CONT'D)

No more car pooling for you in that
run down Toyota.

MADISON

Love your work, Mum.

SASKIA

(To Eleanor)
Tell Ken to bring the TV back
inside.

Josie is soon alone with her new car. She gives it the once over and lets out a long sigh, reluctantly accepting herself as the driver of a new Merc. We hear(O.S.)a full throated version of Happy Birthday strike up.