Alia : Woh!

Jacques laughs

Alia: I love this place, it’s beautiful at night, isn’t it? Love It! Wait..wait…ah! Shit ah!

Jacques : Oh….

Alia: Ohhh…..owwww….

Jauques laughs

Alia: You broke my hip-

Jacques: So cold-

Alia: You broke my hip, well it’s not that my fault that it-you need to warm me up…

Two young guys walk past giggling

Jacques: Relax….

Jacques: I have to tell you something…

Alia: What, I’m a bad kisser?

J: I’m leaving

A: Oh….no, no, no tu ne peut French famine whatever-I don’t care-c’mon! No I-I don’t have work til nine, so I can stay out for another two hours or four, c’mon, c’mon let’s go! Lets another drink! C’mon! C’mon, c’mon, c’mon-

J: You don’t understand, I’m leaving the country Alia.

J: Listen…I didn’t want to worry you but…I applied for an extended visa and it was rejected so…I have to leave in three weeks.

J: But come with me?

J: Come with me.

Scene 2

S: Can you clean those up?

S: Alia..

A: Yeah…

S: Alia!

A: What?

Sam nods to customer who has entered.

Scene 3

S: I don’t give a shit if you go out the night before, just because you work for the family, doesn’t mean you can come to work looking like shit, alright?

S: No one wants to wake up in the morning and see your face like you’ve woken up in your own vomit. It’s a beauty shop for fuck’s sake.

S: You have to work for me for the next month.

A: What? Why?

S: Why? Rayenne has school stuff on.

A: I can’t.

S: You can’t?

S: What does that mean you can’t?

A: I won’t be here.

S: What? Alia?

A: I’m-I’m-I’m going to go overseas.

S: What do you mean your going to go-what-what do you mean?

A: I’m-I’m going-I-I’ve-I’ve met someone and….

S: Alia?!

A: Um…

S: What do you mean you’ve met someone who?

A: I’ve-I have-I-I’m gunna-I’m gunna-

S: Alia! Fucking talk/

A: I’m gunna go, No I’ve/I’ve

S: Who the hell have you met?

A: I’ve-I’ve-I’ve known someone for a really long time-

S: What ya-

A: He’s-He’s a really great-He’s French. He can’t stay in the country. He-He’s a really great person and we made-

S: Alia!

A: And were in love-

S: Who the fuck is this person?

A: He’s-He’s name is Jacques-

S: Oh Jacques what a name/

A: We’ve known each other for a really long time/

S: Fuck, what the/

A: And and/

S: Fuck Alia, you don’t do this!

A: What do you mean?

S: You don’t /fucking do this!

A: Don’t fucking touch me! / Don’t fucking touch me.

S: Alright? Oh, you fucking serious?

A: I’m going to tell Mum and Dad/and I’ll sort it out

S: Oh no/fucking hell

A: And he’s going to convert and everything. Sam, do not tell them I’m going to tell them myself. Sam!

A: Do not tell them, I’m going to tell them myself. Sam!

S: Mum?

A: Sam, sam…

S: Dad?

A: Shut up, shut up, shut up / please, please, please

S: Get off me, what the hell do you think your doing-are you fucking serious?

A: I didn’t say anything about that girl / I didn’t say anything

S: What girl, what the hell are you talking about?

A: Please, please just be/Please! Please!

S: What girl? That’s completely different/Mum! Dad! Fuck off me. Just get off me alright? Just stop it alright? Alia wants to run away with a French guy!!!

A: No! I don’t want to run off I want to get married to a man who is-

US: Arabic - You want to get Married?

US: Arabic - You want to get Married?

A: Yes Mama.

US: Curse your mother. God help me with this girl. No, no, no…you know, it’s better this way…let your husband watch over you and wait for you until 5 am in the morning.

S: Mum, mum. She’s marrying a French guy.

US: French? French man Alia?

A: Yes mama.

US: You and the French! Tell me what is so special about them? You hear the French and you can’t hold up your legs?!

S: No mum, mum-

A: You are such an arsehole, I told you I wanted to tell them by myself, see what you have done?

S: I’m the arsehole? I’m not the one running off with someone they just met to a foreign country!

A: Arabic - Mama, he can’t stay in Australia anymore his visa finishes in three weeks. He works as an Engineer, I’ve-

H: You’ve got to be kidding me. You know him?

A: I know him Heba-

H: I don’t even want to know how you know him-

A: I never-

S: Oh whatever man-

A: Shut up you arsehole you can’t talk anyway.

S: What is that supposed to mean?

H: I can’t believe this.

US: Arabic - Leave all of you! Heba - with Jou Jou in your hands? Shame on you!

US: Arabic - And you, come in here and shout at everyone like a donkey? Get out of my sight!

S: Are you serious?

US: Arabic - I told you get out of my sight before I give you a smack!

US: Arabic - A Muslim girl should not lose people’s respect in this way. God knows what time you arrive home like a girl on the street and now you want to go to strange country and marry a stranger?

A: I told you about him mum…do you remember?

US: “French friend”, not boyfriend. We do not have boyfriends in this house.

A: We were friends. I love him, he loves me-

US: You are all killing me!

A: Arabic - Dad?

AS: Arabic - Alia my girl if you want this, I can’t stand in your way….and I won’t stand in your way.

**Scene 4**

VO Alia: Jacuqes, I need to speak to you, um, yeah call me back….

**Scene 5**

AS: So, Jack. You really love my daughter or just you want a visa?

J: Visa, no. I want to stay with your daughter-I want to be with your daughter but

H: Arabic – Yeah he wants to “be” with her.

J: I have to go and I don’t want to live without her.

S: So Jacques, tell me um…how much money do you have?

A: Sam!

J: It’s ok, I understand-

S: ..and how are you expected to take care of my sister?

A: Jacques, don’t answer, I can take care of myself.

S: You can’t even get out of bed in the morning.

H: Have you even thought about what marriage mean huh?

A: Ofcourse.

J: I want to be with your sister for the rest of my life. I’ve got some money so if she needs, I can help her. But, she’s a grown woman you know so/ she can also take care of herself.

H: Arabic - I love how he comes in here and he thinks he knows our sister better than we do.

R: Speak in English he can’t understand.

US: Jackie, how long you been in Australia.

J: Oh, almost one year maam.

US: And you like Australia?

J: Yes, very much.

US: Ofcourse you like Australia. Australia is the best country in the world. No other country like it. You should stay here-

A: Arabic - Mama, we can’t now.

H: It’s not that you can’t you just want to go to France.

S: Arabic - No, No it’s better for her this way…

S: So that she can run away. Run away from our mortgage, run away from our bills , so that dad can get another job as a taxi driver, so that some racist dickhead can go bash him up!

AS: Enough…Enough…We have a guest.

ES: Jackie eat, eat – you want more meat on the Barbie mate?

J: Yeah ok.

**Scene 6**

ES: My girl, usually the man approaches the father to ask for his daughter’s hand… and if everything is ok, we read the Fatihah and then you’re engaged. Now you’ve come and told me you want to marry…A stranger, we don’t even know where his grandfather’s from! You brought him over to dinner, this is before you run away to a place where I can’t-I can’t protect you.

A: He’s not like other guys dad, he would never hurt me.

ES: Daddy, I am going to accept, I am going to accept what will happen my girl. You’ve reminded me of something….your grandmother disapproved your mother but I did what was in my head. To make her happy…I did not want to leave Lebanon but I left to make your mum happy. I cam here and I didn’t know if I could return to see your sick grandmother, May god protect her. There is sacrifice my girl, there is sacrifice. With the hope of god, your destiny is like my destiny…I can’t tell you more than this.

ES: Come here my girl, come. I will drop you off at the airport my girl. May god bless you, god bless you. May god protect you.

Scene 7

A: You know, I don’t want my pay. You can, you can put it towards the house and the bills.

S: What’s a $100 Alia? What a trip to Costco, oh lord you saved us now…

Scene 8:

R: Bottles that got thrown into the sea and caught up amongst eachother at the bottom…who wrote this?

R: I got it…I’ll push it down you zip it up.

H: Listen to me…He’s meant to take care of you, ok, but you have to take care of yourself. Not all abuse is physical. Call me when you get there.

S: I can’t come.

A: I know.

ES: Alia. The time has come daddy…

ES: Jackie you take good care of my daughter yeah, you bring her back to Australia… - Arabic – Or I am going to come and break your legs

US: May god protect you, may you have success my girl.

Scene 8

Waitress: Il faut un autre chose?

A: No merci.

J: What can we do this afternoon?

Nw: Um, I think we should go out, for a walk…

J: Yeah yeah…I was thinking what you thinking…

NW: Yeah yeah…A romantic walk…

J: Your so pretty…like your earrings…

NW: Thank you very much…it was a really special gift…

J: Oh really, who gave it you, was it your mother?

NW: No it was a friend…a really good friend of mine…