PANDEMIC FAMILY

by

Jarred Hodgdon

COLD OPEN

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

INSERT GRAPHIC: "The future... the NEAR future"

Total disarray: junk up on a bed, open drawers vomiting clothes, the live/work space of someone who's given up.

HAZEL (35), at work at a desk, dual computer screens open. One screen has MANY FACES of a Zoom work meeting. On the other monitor is Hazel's nervous date, GRANT (40), a buttoned-up, socially awkward guy.

HAZEL

Global paradigm shift, we just have to be deterministic and keep jamming our succulent creamy buns in their face.

GRANT

Are we still talking home workout routines?

Hazel switches gears.

HAZEL

I'm sorry dude I popped in on my work meeting.

GRANT

(disappointed)

My first date since quarantine and you're two screening me?

We hear a faint din of OVERLAPPED VOICES from the meeting.

HAZEL

I'm not even paying attention, I just chime in once in awhile.

GRANT

Jamming succulent buns?

HAZEL

Advertising. Working from home on my Lil' Mandy's Sugar Buns account. But let's talk us and our hot date.

ANGLE ON: Grant (on monitor) peers his head over as though he could see onto the other screen.

GRANT

Is the weird sentence you just said over there even apt to the meeting?

HAZEL

We've been in quarantine all this time no one actually pays attention in these work from home meetings...

ANGLE ON: One sad person on the work meeting monitor, GUS.

GUS

I do.

HAZEL

...they just chime in every so often to seem like they're paying attention.

ON GUS: Over the RUMBLE of many voices:

GUS

The conversation gets very confusing in here!

GRANT

Does that make it hard to do a good job?

HAZEL

It's advertising for a sugar turd during a global pandemic. I just dig up some old copy and add the preface,

(serious)

"In uncertain times like these, we take solace in familiar things."

GRANT

I guess I don't feel so bad then about being two screened.

HAZEL

You shouldn't.

(seductive)

I put this attractive blouse on just for you.

Hazel shimmies in her seat to show off.

GRANT

Oh, wow! And here I was wondering if that was your normal, pretty business attire for work.

HAZEL

I usually wear pants to work.

Hazel stands up and twirls around, sure enough she is nude waist down. Were there a studio audience they would WHOOOOP!

Grant's mouth is agape.

ANGLE ON GUS:

GUS

Holy moly! Am I seriously the only one in here even paying attention to this?

GRANT

Hazel, you're even more amazing than your profile. But I really do want to get to know you.

HAZEL

Gee, cooped up all these months, you know how it is.

GRANT

I think everyone's a little extra horny, these days.

HAZEL

I'll say.

GRANT

I've been alone since my adult son left.. So no family with you? Roommates?

HAZEL

No...I have family.

GRANT

Yeah? Parents?...kids?

HAZEL

Yeah.

Grant stares, wanting more info but hoping not to seem eager.

RICH (38), in a tie-dye cartoon character shirt, bounds into the room, digging into a drawer.

RICH

Hey, Hazel, I think I still have some deodorant around.

Grant reacts.

HAZEL

I'm working, Richard.

RICH

Ah, got some right here!

Richard relaxes and approaches. Looks at Grant.

RICH (CONT'D)

Hi, fella. Sorry to bother your work meeting.

HAZEL

Grant here is my internet date.

Rich starts applying underarm deodorant.

RICH

Oh wow! Cute. That's just terrific.

GRANT

(apprehensive)

Your name is, Brother? You're Hazel's brother? What's your name?

Rich CHUCKLES.

HAZEL

He's my husband.

RICH

Have fun. I'll lock the door.

Rich exits.

HAZEL

(to Grant)

So where were we?

Grant is in a state of shock.

ON GUS:

GUS

What the hell.

Hazel fires off a playful smirk.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

Hazel continues her date with Grant.

HAZEL

Now does that explain things?

GRANT

Yeah. You're a recent divorcee --

HAZEL

-- technically just separated.

GRANT

Recently separated from your husband Rich but he came to stay at the start of Stay-At-Home to be close to the kids.

HAZEL

Feel better?

GRANT

(doesn't sound it)

Yeah... I mean I'm divorced too, but fifteen years for me. And kids?

HAZEL

Two. Two wonderful girls. Though my youngest has gone a bit feral since this all started.

INSERT FLASHBACK - INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

MEGAN (12), wearing gear that is a mix of tie-dye pajamas and army fatigues, leaps off the couch into an attack posture wildly flailing a knife towards Hazel.

MEGAN

YEaaahhhH! Get the hell out of my room!

HAZEL

Sweetie. This is the living room. I was headed to get some coffee.

The living room looks like a war zone - overturned couch, a tent, piles of filth and detritus everywhere.

HAZEL (V.O.)

Megan retreated into brute, infantile emotions.

Megan pushes the blade towards her mothers throat.

MEGAN

I'll cut you like I done that post office pig.

CLOSE ON a hand sewn "trophy" on Megan's denim vest - a torn insignia from the U.S. Postal Service uniform.

BACK TO SCENE

GRANT

That sounds difficult.

HAZEL

Me and her are in a rough patch, but she's in a Daddy's Girl phase. I'd be more worried if it weren't for their strong bond.

GRANT

Kids are so active. Maybe it's hard for her to adapt to a world with less pastimes and diversions.

HAZEL

Right.

Hazel's expression disagrees - adapting isn't Megan's issue.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MEANWHILE

Megan and Rich enter from the front door. Arms full and pulling a loaded shopping cart, they're hauling a trove of Amazon boxes. They pull off their face masks.

HAZEL (V.O.)

Her and her father go for supply runs. Kind of the hunter/gatherers of our little clan.

MEGAN

Chickenshit, I just know that loot on the Tremets porch would have been premium quality!

RICH

But they have a dog!

MEGAN

I'd slit that goddamned rat's throat if it came near us.

RICH

But they have a camera doorbell!

Megan gets up into her Dad's personal space.

MEGAN

Don't make me ashamed to have come from your seed, Dad. Even without these masks to hide, this is a frickin' different world we live in now! Your old laws don't matter.

Rich contemplates his daughters maturity.

RICH

I know, honey. Your old Dad just has the cobwebs of nostalgia qumming up his brain factory.

MEGAN

Alright then.

Megan pushes over a pile of boxes and stomps off.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

Just get to opening up our loot!

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - MEANWHILE

Hazel and Grant continue their date.

GRANT

You trust them being safe out shopping? It's getting pretty crazy with the food riots and looting.

HAZEL

A calculated risk I suppose, but they stay safe.

GRANT

And your other daughter?

HAZEL

My eldest. It was shaky at first, she's an adult now herself and had to abandon her first year of college because of all this craziness.

GRANT

That's rough.

HAZEL

But she's adjusted, maybe owing just a little to the fact she brought her boyfriend back with her.

GRANT

Shacking up, huh? Yikes!

HAZEL

I didn't have a choice. They'd sooner sleep in a cardboard box than be separated. But they're good kids.

INSERT INT. KITCHEN - MEANWHILE

TIFFANY (18, cool and chillingly aloof) wears norm-core jeans and white tee. She aggressively french kisses her boyfriend DUKE (18, slow and maleable) a hunky Abercrombie type.

BACK TO SCENE

GRANT

Still, you have my sympathies. Can't be easy to be cooped up in a house so long with all those teenage hormones in the air.

HAZEL

I didn't mention my greatgrandfather. One-hundred seven years old, still healthy if you can believe it.

GRANT

Holy smokes that's old!

HAZEL

He spends a lot of time with the kids, which helps in them keeping their amorous paws off each other!

INT. KITCHEN - MEANWHILE

We see more of the kitchen now. Cupboards are open and bare, spare random cans and boxes of food are sparse therewithin.

Tiffany and Duke are still making out.

OTIS (107, joyful as a child yet wise) wears comfy overalls and has tufts of wild hair shooting in many directions. He watches the teenagers make out - thinks of past romances.

HAZEL (V.O.)

It's cute actually. He was a child and survived the Spanish Flu, not to mention the depression. So he has all these great old poverty recipes he's teaching the kids.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Tiffany and Duke are now cooking over the stove with Otis seated nearby, instructing.

OTTS

Just a dab now of the fishtank juice.

Tiffany cautiously pours a little chemical into the pot a PHFLOO - a small plume of vapor rises up. She nervously looks at her great-great-grandfather.

OTIS (CONT'D)

That'll do. And stir it now. Easy.

DUKE

Is this safe to smell?

OTIS

(ignoring Duke)

I was the youngest follower of Luigi Galleani and as such a puny little kid, I could crawl and cram my way into just about any tight spot. That's how I did in that Prod judge too. Squeezed my way right through under the floor-boards. They called me Kid Boom after that.

Duke is confused but Tiffany looks prideful towards Otis.

DUKE

(concerned)

What exactly are we cooking here?

HAZEL (V.O.)

A family may seem like a strange collection of people arbitrarily forced together, but it sure gives me the happy feelies when we come together in love and support.

Megan and Rich enter, carrying a few items from their haul.

MEGAN

Guess who brought home the bacon again?!

All are happy to see them. Megan sets a jug on the counter.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

Bleach always comes in handy.

TIFFANY

Nice one, Sis.

MEGAN

Quiet, kiss-ass.

Tiffany takes the high-road and plays off the insult.

TIFFANY

Love you too, lil' sis.

RICH

How are you all doing here? Holding down the fort?

TIFFANY

Great-grandpa was showing us one of his old recipes for tonight.

RICH

Well aren't we fortunate? Y'know, we just don't do things like you did in the old days.

MEGAN

(sarcastic)

Like racism and mandated shock therapy for wives that felt stuff?

OTIS

Hey, I killed a lot of Capitalist pigs!

RICH

Your great-great-grandfather was a freedom fighter.
(MORE)

RICH (CONT'D)

His name even came up in the House Un-American Activities Committee.

MEGAN

Oh cool.

Megan makes a "waxing the banana" motion.

RICH

But say, is there anything we can do to help this concoction along?

OTIS

We need a casing to bond everything together. Silica and titanium should work with what we got.

RICH

Where am I supposed to get that?

OTIS

All kinds of stores have that simple stuff! Dental implant manufacturers, bioengineering firms, plastic surgeons...

Rich and Megan throw each other an exasperated look.

MEGAN

All kinds of stores he says!

RICH

Sheesh!

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Hazel and Grant continue their date.

HAZEL

A simple family meal is an ordeal, what with the food shortages and the chaos in stores.

GRANT

Even before all this there was never such a thing as one stop shopping. It's like Trader Joe's has the tomato paste I like but Ralph's has my almond milk and I have to get my toilet paper from Costco!

HAZEL

Shopping!

GRANT

I know... shopping!

Hazel changes the subject.

HAZEL

But you said you had one son and otherwise live alone?

GRANT

All alone now, we had a pretty bad fight over house rules and he ran out on me. I worry, but his Mom tells me she hears from him time-to-time.

HAZEL

That must be so hard for you. You're so all alone.

GRANT

I'm doing okay.

HAZEL

You're lonely. I can come see you?

GRANT

You think that's safe?

HAZEL

I have a NuvaRing.

GRANT

I mean safe from Covid-19.

HAZEL

We have to take some pleasure from life, even if it means necessary calculated risks?

Grant seems unsure... but then again he is horny.

GRANT

I dunno.

HAZEL

Besides, didn't you get the vaccine?

GRANT

Well sure, but it's only a trial. The experts say we still need to quarantine at least another six months before we even know if it works.

HAZEL

Well if we must be lab rats for the government we should at least be able to bang like rabbits, right?

GRANT

(chuckles)

Yeah, maybe so...

Hazel bites her lower lip seductively.

ANGLE ON: Gus on the second monitor.

GUS

Why haven't you muted your mic?!

GRANT

And you got the vax too?

HAZEL

(she didn't)

For sure. Yeah. Of course.

FLASHBACK INT./EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - DAY

A sign on the family's front door reads "No Solicitors". A hand drawn sign under that adds, "Or anyone else".

TWO OFFICIALS in Hazmat suits ring the doorbell.

The door opens with Hazel pointing a glock handgun, Megan brandishing her knife, Rich rolling up his sleeves, Tiffany aggressively chewing gum and Otis looking menacing in back.

MEGAN

Look, the damned 2020 Census returns.

OFFICIAL #1

Folks, the administering of the vaccine is compulsory.

TIFFANY

We're not your guinea pigs!

HAZEL

Take a hike up the hill and give the rich people the vax first!

RICH

We aren't taking anything until we know its safe.

OFFICIAL #2

Your family is being unreasonable.

OTIS

What about the Tuskagee Experiment, Pigs?!

Otis throws a Molotov cocktail at the feet of the officials.

Hazel SLAMS the door in their face.

The officials catch on fire letting out a SCREAM.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

Hazel continues her date with Grant on the monitor. Hazel's work meeting continues on the second monitor.

HAZEL

Send me your address, Mr. Hunk man.

GRANT

Let's get to know each other a little more first.

HAZEL

Send me your address and then we'll get to know each other more first.

GRANT

You're so exciting, Hazel. Doesn't it concern you that you hardly know me? I could be a serial killer.

HAZEL

Look, big guy. I'm not diving onto this water-slide unless I know we get wet at the end. Grant GULPS.

ANGLE ON: Gus on monitor.

Gus is continuing to try to take the meeting seriously while the NOISE of his coworkers nonsense continues.

GUS

I actually enjoy my career and really want to do a good job.

GRANT

(to Hazel)

When you put it that way I suppose all relationships involve a degree of trust and a degree of risk.

Grant types something in on his end of the screen.

Hazel receives an IM of his address on her screen.

HAZEL

Isn't that just the thing, silly man? Risk? Isn't that exciting?

GRANT

How do you mean?

Hazel starts getting sexually excited.

HAZEL

We started this coronavirus thing out living in fear everyday but it soon sorta became the norm. In all these months since, everyday our world becomes a little more uncertain, the growl of chaos and anarchy rumbles just beyond the edge of our once perfectly manicured lawns...

Hazel grows mentally aroused and worked up.

Grant begins to sweat with physical intimidation.

HAZEL (CONT'D)

It's like we passed the Rubicon of the end of time and the end of our little world yet we hang in the void not knowing where our feet will land, or if they even will. It's really, kinda sexy. Hazel shoots Grant bedroom eyes.

Grant's pulse races. He apprehensively tries to relate.

GRANT

Yeah, risk is hot. Like, I went outside one day for an early morning walk but realized I forgot my face mask.

Hazel grows disinterested.

GRANT (CONT'D)

And I thought, "Eh, no one will probably be out this morning. I'll just finish my walk."

HAZEL

(bored)

Oh wow.

GRANT

But then, I saw another guy walking towards me.

(emphatically)

So I crossed the street.

Hazel is not impressed. Her horniness has withered.

INT. KITCHEN - MEANWHILE

Their pot on the stove boiling, Tiffany, Duke and Otis sit around the kitchen table.

DUKE

So, I'm like pretty hungry actually and whatever we're cooking doesn't look very edible.

TIFFANY

There's more you can cook in a kitchen than lunch.

DUKE

But can we cook lunch?

OTIS

We don't have food. Finish your work and then we will get food.

DUKE

Man, I left my Dad's house cause he was stingy with his shit.

OTIS

Have you considered solving a problem rather than whining about one?

Tiffany pulls out a pill and crushes it up.

TIFFANY

Here, do a toot of this.

DUKE

Is that drugs?

TIFFANY

No, just some of my Adderall script to quiet your appetite.

DUKE

That could make me act all weird and stupid.

OTIS

Then you'd have a good excuse.

Tiffany hands Duke a straw. Duke shrugs and does a line then throws his head back from the burning sensation. He looks zonked out.

OTIS (CONT'D)

(to Tiffany)

My beautiful progeny, you have selected a dull, bourgeois nincompoop.

TIFFANY

Yeah... but he's a hunk.

Otis shrugs in acceptance of her reasoning.

INT. FANTASTIC PLASTIC - MEANWHILE

The plastic surgery medical office has been closed up since quarantine began. The environment looks pretty but vacant.

CRASH

A window near the ceiling shatters from the swift kick of a boot. Megan tries to shove Rich through.

RICH

Careful, there's a drop!

MEGAN

Get in there!

RICH

Careful, there's glass.

A harsh shove and Rich falls, SMASHING to the ground.

RICH (CONT'D)

Ow!

Megan peeks her head through the window.

MEGAN

Good job. You made it.

Rich stands and brushes himself off.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

Now lemme in.

Rich crosses the room and opens the door. Megan descends the stairs from outside and enters.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

Brave fall you took there, Pops.

RICH

Brave?! You shoved me.

MEGAN

Yeah, you're welcome.

RICH

(annoyed)

Alright, lets just move quick and get all the items on grandpa's list.

Megan swats down a piece of art from the front desk - a stylized sculpture of an "ideal" woman.

Megan leads Rich into --

INT. OPERATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Rich opens cabinets. Megan finds some items that amuse her, holding silicone implants up in front of her and play mocking.

MEGAN

Ooo, look at me! I'm a cul-de-sac princess.

RICH

Quiet. Let's get the stuff and get out of here.

Megan throws her new toys in her backpack.

MEGAN

What's the rush? No one will even know we were ever here.

RICH

Young lady, I've been around a lot longer than you. I've seen every episode of this show that used to be on. It was called COPS, and the primary lesson of COPS was, if you do crime stupidly, you'll get caught in a monumentally embarrassing fashion. Probably in your underwear.

Megan plays with a giant speculum.

MEGAN

Then we're safe since we're wearing more than just underwear, stupid!

RICH

You aren't even wearing gloves. Gloves protect from more than just the virus, they also keep our prints off all this stuff.

Rich stuffs a bottle of supplements into his backpack.

Megan takes a serious posture.

MEGAN

Look, Pops. I've been meaning to have a talk with you for awhile. You just aren't living in reality.

Rich begrudgingly perks up to listen.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

Whatever world you thought you lived in is gone. This dumb, plastic boob store in a crappy strip mall is dead, a shadow that is fading away.

Rich frustrates.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

It's the dawn of a new era of feudalism and brute survival. No one will be getting plastic surgery, frozen yogurt, or Funko Pops ever again. And if a cop ever catches you stealing for your supper you won't have to worry about him dusting for prints. You just better duck because Miranda Rights don't exist anymore and that pig has a bullet looking to meet your skull.

Rich handles a tube of silica then stuffs it into his bag.

RICH

(sheepishly)

Well look, I think I got everything on the list.

Megan punches Rich's arm.

MEGAN

Thatta boy, Dad!

Rich grins. Although solemn, he can't help but be impressed and proud of his daughter.

RICH

Y'know. Now that we're talking serious... what do you think about all this happening and me moving back into the house?

MEGAN

It's fine.

RICH

Fine?

MEGAN

Dad, I know a child isn't supposed to have a favorite, but I love you more.

Rich smiles but feels a twinge of quilt.

RICH

That's very sweet of you to say.

MEGAN

And if you and Mom getting back together was what you were getting to, don't even think about it. She ain't taking you back, and you could do better if you ask me.

RICH

Okay.

(sigh)

What say we get home?

MEGAN

First we break shit!

Megan picks up a stool and $\frac{\text{throws it across the room}}{\text{SCREAMING,}}$ she rips a shelf from the wall, medical contents spilling everywhere.

Rich watches, then shrugs and joins in, flipping over a medical table.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - MEANWHILE

Hazel continues her internet date with Grant on one monitor and her Zoom work meeting on another.

GRANT

It sounds like in your own way you're making things are work pretty well with your family?

HAZEL

(into second monitor)
We're pushing the schedule back on that to Q three for 2021.

ANGLE ON: GUS in meeting

GUS

I have five years seniority on you Hazel and you've been promoted above me twice. This isn't fair!

HAZEL

(to Grant)

Sorry. Work. Where were we, hunky-man?

GRANT

I was saying, it seems like you have a good family.

(MORE)

GRANT (CONT'D)

It's good to have people to lean on in times like these.

HAZEL

I know, I guess I take all the help for granted. How are you managing all alone?

GRANT

It can be a challenge. But, and this is a funny thing to say, I was what they called a doomsday prepper before all this went down. So I've been fully stocked and loaded, and when quarantine went down I started hoarding even more. So I'm comfortable for a long while still.

HAZEL

Aren't all you doomsday preppers qun nuts?

GRANT

That's an unfortunate stigma we carry. But no, I believe in survival through ones wits and a never failing ideal of the human capacity for sharing in the bounty of life.

Hazel arouses at Grant's words.

HAZEL

Mmmm. You're such a strong man but still so soft in the heart.

GRANT

Thank you for saying so.

HAZEL

(flirting)

I really want to share my bounty with you.

GRANT

I do feel like I'm getting to know you pretty well.

HAZEL

So then I can come and see you tonight?

ANGLE ON: Gus in Zoom meeting. Everyone's windows are gone from the meeting except for Hazel and Gus'.

GUS

The meeting ended Hazel! But you know what? To hell with it. I'm sticking around just to watch you and see what was so much more important than work!

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Otis sits on the couch next to Duke whom is extremely wasted and passed out. Tiffany fusses with the DVD player/TV combo - starting up a DVD.

The door opens, Megan and Rich enter with their loot.

Megan does a victory lap:

MEGAN

(singing)

"Bye bye, Bunting, Megan went a-hunting, Gone to catch a rabbit skin to put the baby Bunting in!"

Megan smacks Tiffany upside her head with her backpack as the song crescendos.

TIFFANY

Hey guys, what's up?

RICH

We got the goods!

Rich regards the DVD starting up - an episode of Doomsday Preppers.

RICH (CONT'D)

Hey, more research my ever studious daughter?

TIFFANY

Just seeing if there's any details we missed.

We catch a glimpse of the TV - Grant is on this episode.

MEGAN

What'd you do to fish-lips anyway? He dead?

Megan indicates to Duke whom is drooling on himself.

TIFFANY

Probably not. He liked my Adderall so much so I gave him some of grandpa's Hydocodone chased with one of Mom's expired Ambien.

Megan catches Tiffany gazing a certain way at Duke.

MEGAN

(rebuking)

You aren't going too soft for this one are you?

TIFFANY

So what if I have a boner for him a little bit? You don't think I can go through with it? You don't think I can stab him in the back even if I do like him?

MEGAN

You just better stab him in the back.

Megan whips out a butterfly knife.

Otis LAUGHS.

OTIS

Kids today.
 (laugh)
They're great.

RICH

Alright girls, we're having fun but let's get everything together and ready. I just wish we had better protective gear.

DING-DONG - the doorbell.

Megan pivots, brandishing her knife towards the door.

Rich pulls a baseball bat out from behind a plant.

Otis reaches between the couch cushions to retrieve an antique Luger.

They don't seem scared. They all smile at one another as though they've been through this routine before.

The DOORBELL RINGS again. Before answering they joke around.

RICH (CONT'D)

Who is it?

TIFFANY

(rhetorical)

Is it a canvasser, out electioneering?

OTIS

(rhetorical)

No, the election was cancelled. Trump is president for life!

MEGAN

(rhetorical)

Is it Mormons?

OTIS

No. God is dead now.

Duke still slumbers, dead asleep.

RICH

I'd ask if it's the County Coroner, but no one bothers to pick up the corpses anymore.

MEGAN

Alright, let's get this over with.

RICH

Let me take the lead, I have an idea.

Rich gives a signal and everyone hides their weapons. He opens the door, takes a step back, letting it swing open.

On the other side of the door are the Two Officials in Hazmat suits.

RICH (CONT'D)

Fellas! Good to see you again.

The Two Officials look at one another.

OFFICIAL #1

No funny business.

RICH

We owe you an apology. I looked into it and it turns out it's totally crazy to be against vaccines.

OFFICIAL #2

(defensive)

It is crazy!

RICH

Come on in, come on in!

The Two Officials hesitatingly enter. After crossing the threshold Megan SLAMS the door closed with them inside.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - LATER

Hazel sips from a glass of red wine. She raises it to toast Grant, still on the computer monitor.

HAZEL

Cheers!

Grant raises his glass.

GRANT

Cheers!

Hazel takes a sip.

HAZEL

Yours is fizzy?

GRANT

It's soda pop. I quit drinking.

HAZEL

Oh. Really?

GRANT

Does that bother you?

HAZEL

It's just...in times like these I think anyone would be tempted to fall off the wagon.

GRANT

(offput)

I have my ten year chip.

HAZEL

It's not like you have to be to work in the morning.

GRANT

You're encouraging me to drink?

HAZEL

Gosh, you must think I'm a monster. I'm sorry.

Grant kind of does - but he still wants to hook up.

GRANT

No. Not at all. This has been, just a wonderful time talking to you.

HAZEL

Ready for it to get more wonderful?

ANGLE ON MONITOR: An instant message pops up on Hazel's screen: "WE R IN POSITION"

GRANT

Sure. Think you want to head over here after the toast?

CRASH - a sound from Grant's side of the conversation.

HAZEL

(feigning shock) Gosh. What was that.

ANGLE ON MONITOR:

We see Grant get up to investigate the sound. A gas bomb falls to his feet and the room fills with smoke.

Grant spins around and GASPS towards the webcam.

GRANT

Oh my God! Call for help! Find my son, Duke. Tell him I love him!

Grant CHOKES and collapses.

ON HAZEL: She takes a sip of wine.

ANGLE ON MONITOR:

TWO FIGURES emerge from the smoke in Hazmat suits. As they get close to the camera we can see the faces of Rich and Megan.

RICH

Hi, Hazel.

HAZEL

Guys, from what I gather he should have a huge stock of food and toilet paper.

MEGAN

Good job, Mom.

Hazel is touched by the acknowledgement from Megan.

HAZEL

Aw, thanks dear. You two be safe and get home soon.

Hazel ends the chat.

She sits back in her chair and takes a satisfying sip of wine.

ANGLE ON: Gus in Zoom meeting on second monitor. He is eating popcorn.

GUS

So you aren't going to have a booty call with that other guy now?

Hazel turns her attention and for the first time, listens to and looks at Gus.

HAZEL

Hey Gus, what's your deal?

GUS

I miss going to work. The office was my whole life. I haven't had a conversation with anyone in months.

HAZEL

That's so sad...

Want to see my lamplight?

GUS

Your what?

Still naked below the waist, Hazel stands up and flashes Gus her crotch.

GUS (CONT'D)

I didn't want to see that!

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. GARAGE (RICH'S ROOM) - NIGHT

Rich, in pajamas, lays a blanket out on his cot. The garage is crowded with supplies - many cans of food, jugs of water and piles of toilet paper.

Hazel enters with hot steaming mugs.

HAZEL

Brought you some tea.

RICH

Thanks.

They sit a few feet apart from one another on the couch.

HAZEL

Great haul today.

RICH

One for the books. We'll be good for awhile.

HAZEL

We all deserve a few days off now.

RICH

(concerned)

Megan and I spotted a new construction of a 5G tower going up near the old school.

HAZEL

(upset)

What?! We need to destroy it.

RICH

Already have operational plans underway.

HAZEL

So much for a few days off!

Rich takes a sip and looks around the room.

RICH

When we were married, I had so many arguments with you, I wanted so bad to turn this garage into a man cave.

HAZEL

(cheerily)

And now it's your room!

RICH

Where did it go wrong with us, Haze?

HAZEL

You lost your job. Then quit looking for a job, tried to become a professional Twitch streamer and I lost all respect for you and attraction towards you.

RICH

(stung)

That's very specific.

HAZEL

But it's great to have you here for the kids.

RICH

Seems silly now. The world's different, eighty percent of the population is unemployed, the dollar has crashed, millions of people are dead. Silly that me losing my job a year before everyone else did is what soured our whole marriage.

Hazel hasn't softened.

HAZEL

I don't think it's silly. It's more like unfortunate.

RICH

Unfortunate?

HAZEL

That I'm not attracted to you. Not just physically, but like psychically you just don't do it for me anymore.

Rich is glum. Hazel pats him on the knee and get up.

HAZEL (CONT'D)

But great job today!

As Rich pouts, Hazel turns to say one last thing before exiting.

HAZEL (CONT'D)

Goodnight.

RICH

Goodnight.

Hazel exits.

RICH (CONT'D)
It's the end of the world as we know it and my wife still doesn't love me.

Rich takes a sad sip of tea.

END OF SHOW