FOUR DEGREES AND NO HIRE - FINALE

written by

Emmylou Allen
Dillon Hawkins
Tyler Lopez
Joshua McDonald
Adam Soloman

Created by

Joey Catron
Pietro DiSante
Joshua McDonald
Adam Soloman

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FADE IN

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

MAGGIE
This isn’t going to work.

Maggie takes a seat beside Isaac at the dining room table. Isaac is writing something, his tongue sticking out. He’s holding the PERMANENT MARKER in his fist. Dexter comes from the kitchen.

DEXTER
You never think anything is going to work.

MAGGIE
Well, that’s because nothing has worked yet. I don’t have a job, Isaac doesn’t have a job, Joel doesn’t. Do you, Dex? Because I don’t think you do.

DEXTER
Well it’s not a job, now is it? We need to think positive.

MAGGIE
Positive? You want me to think about being positive? (cheeky) I’m positive we’re going to go to jail.

ISAAC
Not so loud, guys, you’re breaking my concentration.

Maggie and Dexter ignore him. Dexter stands up, taking a bite of his club sandwich, and talks with his mouthful.

DEXTER
Don’t be silly. Plenty of people do this sort of thing...I mean football players do it ALL the time. (extra enthusiastic) We’re going to make MILLIONS!

MAGGIE
And then we can ride around on broomsticks and breed unicorns. (MORE)
After that we can chase leprechauns and tickle them until suffocate in their own laughter.

ISAAC
(doesn’t look up)
I love unicorns.

Dexter takes another bite of his sandwich, shakes his head. JOEL enters through the front door, his head stuck in a book. It is ‘Fight Club’ by Chuck Palahniuk.

DEXTER
What are you doing?

JOEL
Research.

Joel closes the book and comes up behind Isaac, looking over his shoulder.

JOEL (CONT’D)
Isaac, No! You aren’t supposed to make it that obvious!

ISAAC
What, why?

JOEL
The first rule is -

ISAAC
Oh, oh! Right. Sorry.

Isaac starts over. Joel sighs, looking to Maggie and Dexter.

JOEL
Are you two arguing, again?

MAGGIE
No!

DEXTER
(at same time)
No!

MAGGIE
I still don’t think this is going to work at all.

JOEL
Nah, Maggie. We’ve got this covered.
Joel heads over to the kitchen and comes out with a legal pad.

JOEL (CONT’D)
I’ve read the book three times now.
I think we’ve got everything covered.
   (flips through pages)
We got the location. We’ve got the fliers. I got a snack table set up and I have 911 on speed dial. I’ve slowly put the word out so we should have a big crowd. We’re golden.

DEXTER
See, I told you so. This one is going to work.
   (hits chest)
I can feel it.

Dexter then takes a ravenous bite of his sandwich.

ISAAC
   (to himself)
Yeah...much better.

Isaac’s writing is in big fat bold letters, ‘Fight Group.’

INT. FIGHT CLUB BASEMENT - NIGHT

There is a decent size crowd in the basement all circled around. At the door, Maggie and Joel standing together.

JOEL
   (scared)
Now don’t worry Maggie. We don’t expect you to fight.

MAGGIE
   (insulted)
Well I’m not going to just be the score keeper.

OR

You all forced me to go along with this stupid plan and you don’t want me to fight?

Dexter rushes towards the two.
DEXTER
Guys!

JOEL
Man, this is going great. We must have made a thousand dollars already.

DEXTER
We have a problem.

MAGGIE
(whips around to look at Dexter, aggravated)
See! I told you something would happen!

DEXTER
We’re out of Doritos!

JOEL
Calm down, we have another bag in the car.

DEXTER
Well...that isn’t the only thing. The crowd is getting restless. We need to get this thing started.

CROWD MEMBER (O.C.)
Are we going to see some fighting or what!?

JOEL
(looks around, hesitantly)
We need to wait for Isaac.

DEXTER
(points)
Well there he is.

Isaac enters the basement carrying a BUCKET of vegetable oil. He comes up to them, frowning.

ISAAC
Sorry it took so long.

MAGGIE
What is that?

ISAAC
Oh, I brought some oil! Incase people wanted to grease themselves up. Interested, Maggie?
Joel gets annoyed at the comment Isaac makes to Maggie, reaching out to smack him. Isaac jumps away quickly.

ISAAC (CONT’D)
Careful, Joeli! I already spilled some on the stairs!

Maggie looks to the crowd.

MAGGIE
(smug)
Well you all better get in there. The crowd is waiting.

ISAAC
Well, we have to grease up first!

DEXTER
Christ, Isaac.

ISAAC
Ah, Man! We’ve got buggles!

Isaac runs off for the refreshment table. Dexter and Joel look to each other and turn for the crowd. Dexter enters first, looking confident and loving the addition. The crowd cheers. Joel follows, looking rather frightened now.

JOEL
Now...remember everyone...the first rule of --

CROWD MEMBER
(cuts off)
Start the fucking fight!

The crowd member shoves Joel into Dexter. Dexter braces himself and accident elbows Joel in the face.

JOEL
Ow! That hurt, Dexter!

DEXTER
Sorry, man.

Dexter begins to circle Joel with his fists up. Joel shifts, now putting his fists up.

CROWD MEMBER
(shouting)
Come on!

Joel throws a punch at Dexter, Dexter jumps back.
DEXTER
I thought we said light taps!

JOEL
YOU HIT ME IN THE FACE!

DEXTER
Accident, Dude!

FEMALE CROWD MEMBER
(shouting)
Let’s go! Fight you pussies! I wanna see some blood!

Dexter gets caught up in the moment and winds up for a punch. SLOW MOTION. Dexter punches Joel square in the jaw. Joel falls to the ground.

JOEL
That’s it! I’m done!

Joel stands up and stalks off, heading to the refreshments table. Dexter is now full of himself, facing crowd.

DEXTER
WHOSE NEXT?!

Dexter mocks the crowd.

DEXTER (CONT’D)
Who wants a piece of me?

CROWD MEMBER
That’s it? One punch?!

DEXTER
That’s all it takes! The guns are loaded!

Maggie, has been standing in the crowd, her arms crossed and looking thoroughly pissed off. She pushes her jacket off and shoves through the crowd, stepping into the ring.

MAGGIE
What the hell, Dexter?

Dexter doesn’t even notice her.

DEXTER
No one? No one is brave enough to face me?
Maggie comes up behind, taps him on the shoulder. When he turns, she immediately punches him in the jaw.

MAGGIE
You told him wouldn’t hit him! Why did you punch him?!

Maggie continues to throw punches at Dexter, who tries to protect himself from her.

DEXTER
Maggie! Maggie! Calm down!

MAGGIE
Why? It’s a fight club, isn’t it? This is what you wanted, isn’t it?

DEXTER
I didn’t mean to, Maggie! Stop!

CUT TO:

REFRESHMENTS TABLE

Joel walks up, holding his jaw, and notices Chaz with Isaac.

ISAAC
I mean I don’t know how the others are going to feel about it, Man, but I am totally on board! I’m your guy. Literally. I can’t wait, Chaz!

Isaac hugs Chaz quickly. He places his head on Chaz’s shoulder, closing his eyes and hugging him tight.

ISAAC (CONT’D)
I love you, Man! I love you!

CHAZ
(pats him on the back)
Woah, Big Guy. It’s cool. Calm down. It’s not a big deal.

Isaac, still hugging Chaz, opens and sees Joel. He immediately lets go and has concern. He walks to over Joel.

ISAAC
You got hit? I thought the plan was to be gentle.
JOEL
Yeah, so did I. What’s the deal with Chaz?

ISAAC
Oh, right! You should go talk to him man. I mean really...give him a chance. You’re going to like it.

JOEL
I really doubt that, Isaac.

ISAAC
Just talk to him.

Isaac turns to Chaz.

ISAAC (CONT’D)
I’ll talk to you in a bit. Bye, Chaz!

Isaac walks away and Joel heads towards Chaz.

CHAZ
Nice shiner, buddy.

JOEL
What are you doing here?

CHAZ
I’m here to check out the festivities. Isaac even said Maggie is going to be oiling herself up later. Can’t miss her doing that, love when she’s wet.

JOEL
Please don’t talk about her like that.

CHAZ
Still not hitting are ya’?

JOEL
(angry)
Look, don’t you talk about her --

CHAZ
Alright, alright. I apologize. I won’t talk about her in that way again. I’m actually here with a prospect for you four.

CUT TO:
ARENA

Dexter is standing, holding his face, covered in blood, backed away from Maggie. Maggie is breathing heavy, looking at the crowd.

CROWD MEMBER

DAMN!

Maggie takes in another breath before looking to the crowd.

MAGGIE

Alright, who is next?

The entire crowd backs away.

CUT TO:

REFRESHMENTS TABLE

JOEL

I don’t really know what to say.

CHAZ

Well, if you want, you start on Monday.

JOEL

Yeah, yeah. Thanks, Chaz.

The two shake hands. Joel glances back towards the crowd, unable to see Maggie in the circle.

JOEL (CONT’D)

What’s going on?

CHAZ

Well, let’s go check it out.

They head to the arena.

CUT TO:

ARENA

Joel and Chaz make their way to the front. Joel looks shocked to see Maggie standing above a person, who is on the floor trying to crawl away.

JOEL

MAGGIE!
Maggie looks to Joel and spots Chaz. She points to Chaz.

MAGGIE
(drawn out)
Yooooouuuuuu.

Chaz blinks and stares at Maggie. He regains his composure, walking into the rink.

CHAZ
Well, well. Look at little Maggie Cat. I love when you let the dominatrix out.

MAGGIE
Shut up and fight.

CHAZ
I’m not going to fight you, Maggie.

MAGGIE
New rule of fight club. You step into the arena, your mine.

CHAZ
That’s silly.

MAGGIE
Mmm...not silly at all, Charles Beauregard Mulnard the third.

CHAZ
(smirks)
You’re right. Not silly at all.
(emphasizes each word)
Margaret. Albertina. Grobin.

MAGGIE
(shouts ala The Hulk)
Don’t call me Margaret!

Maggie then rushes forward and throws one good punch to Chaz’s nose.

JOEL AND DEXTER OFF TO SIDE

Joel is laughing, his back to the area. Maggie is pounding away at Chaz.

DEXTER
What are you laughing about?

JOEL
We start work for him on Monday.
FADE OUT