Script #288, Bent, Alex/Pete, 3 pages ROLE: FEMALE, early to mid 20s, Male early to mid 20s

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE - DAY

ALEX

I thought you were coming at nine?

PETE

Sorry. I had another job. Hi, Pete Riggins. You must be Alex.

ALEX

Was it in the ocean? You smell like saltwater.

PETE

Thank you.

ALEX

More of an accusation than a compliment.

PETE

I'm going to take a mulligan here. Hi, I'm Pete. Sorry I'm late. I was surfing.

ALEX

Hi Pete. I hope you're a good contractor because your first impression kind of blows.

PETE

I'm the best. In America. I can't vouch for what's happening down in South America. They're super handy

They walk through Alex's small living room to the kitchen.

ALEX

So I got your name from Brad and Cindy Laughlin...

PETE

The Laughlins. Cool. Yeah, I had to turn that project over to my foreman. I got real busy.

ALEX

And Brad fired you. Because you were sleeping with Cindy.

1 PETE

That was a factor too. Can I be honest?

ALEX

Doesn't seem like it.

PETE

The Laughlin project wandered into a moral gray area but have you seen their kitchen? I knocked it out of the park.

ALEX

Cindy was very impressed.

PETE

And I think Brad was too. In his heart of hearts.

They enter the kitchen. It's cramped and out-dated. Alex rolls out some plans. Through out the following, Pete is doing a walk-thru; inspecting counters, opening cabinets, running the sink, etc...

ALEX

I want to totally re-do it. Floors, cabinets, new appliances. And I want to blow out this wall and put in a breakfast nook. What do you think?

PETE

So, are you just moving in?

ALEX

Yeah. I'm downsizing. Divorce. I recently released a bastard back into the wild.

PETE

The beach is a good habitat for bastards. We thrive here. He's in the old house?

ALEX

Nope, he got a smaller place. In prison.

PETE

He's not in for anything violent or jealous in nature I hope.

ALEX

He defrauded Medicare but at least he gave the money to his mistress.

PETE

And you let him get away?

She smiles, he does too. She stops smiling.

ALEX

Listen, Pete, if you get this gig, it's because you're cheap and you're good. I've got a full plate. I'm not looking for anything else.

PETE

Anything else ...?

ALEX

You know, Laughlin like.

PETE

Am I holding two wine glasses? Are my pants off? I don't feel like I'm being inappropriate.

ALEX

I'm just saying, there'll be no monkey business.

PETE

I hate monkey business. I never use that phrase. I'll get numbers to you by Friday.

ALEX

Thursday.

PETE

That doesn't give me much time.

ALEX

Surf less.