1 THE DRESS 1

INT. "DRAG ON!" SECOND HAND STORE - DAY

Caspar is absent-mindedly looking through the crowded clothes on the racks in front of him. From his right, River speed walks to him. They are clearly concealing something behind their back. Caspar notices and looks to them, expecting River to speak first.

CASPAR

Hey, Riv...What's that? You find something good?

RIVER

(Repressing a grin) It's something for you!

(Pause)

I know that doesn't answer your question, I just...I mean, here!

They reveal what's behind their back: a large, deeply red velvet dress. Caspar looks at it and laughs playfully.

CASPAR

(Under his breath)

Jesus Christ...

RIVER

(Laughing playfully as well) What? What do you mean, "jesus christ"? This would look great on you!

CASPAR

You've <u>got</u> to be kidding me, right now.

Caspar glances back at River as he slowly moves down the racks. River is still holding out the dress eagerly.

CASPAR (CONT'D)

Shit, you're not kidding.

RIVER

Of course not! Why would I kid about this? Don't tell me you wouldn't absolutely <u>murder</u> in this dress.

CASPAR

I'm thinking I'd rather <u>be</u> murdered than wear that dress.

CONTINUED: (2)

River rolls their eyes.

RIVER

(Like a stern parent)

Caspian Charles Colin Robb, you're on this trip to explore yourself, ok? Not just sit there in your shell of -

(Shudders at the word)

Masculinity.

River tosses the dress to Caspar, who reluctantly catches it.

RIVER (CONT'D)

At least try it on?

(With intention)

For me?

CASPAR

If this dress is so amazing, why don't you just buy it?

RTVER

Are you shitting me? That thing like is a circus tent on me.

Caspar hold up the garment over his front.

CASPAR

Am I supposed to assume that <u>wasn't</u> a remark on my size?

River laughs and turns Caspar by his shoulders, guiding him to an open changing room at the end of the aisle.

RIVER

Listen, don't think too hard about it. I respect your agency to make decisions, but just try on the dress and I can die happily, ok?

CASPAR

Is that a promise?

RIVER

Get in there.

River decidedly shoves Caspar into the small space and shuts the door behind him. A few minutes pass and River is leaning against the door.

RIVER

CONTINUED: (3) (CONT'D)

Everything good in there? Need me to zip you up?

CASPAR

(Laughing)

No, I do not, thank you very much. I'm a grown ass man, I can dress my -- (Sheepishly)

Actually, yeah, that would be helpful.

River enters the changing room and is visibly stunned by how Caspar looks in the dress.

RIVER

...Jesus Christ.

CASPAR

What?

RIVER

Nothing, I just...you look <u>really</u> good, Caspar.

Trying to hide from the flattery, Caspar turns to the mirror.

CASPAR

I mean, I think I could pull off a dress? But maybe just not this one.

RIVER

What!? Are you blind? Like seriously! Like, who the fuck gave you the authority to look so good in this dress?

CASPAR

You sure?

(He tugs lightly at the straps) Like, these skinny fuckers are barely keeping this thing up.

River slaps away Caspar's hand and begins to zip up the back.

RIVER

They're spaghetti straps, babe. They're supposed to be skinny so the crowd can see these!

River pats Caspar's wide shoulders with passion.

CASPAR

CONTINUED: (4)

The crowd?

RIVER

Yeah! Y'know, like, at a drag show?

CASPAR

(Still thinking this is ridiculous) Riv, I just put on a dress. It don't think I'm gonna be in any drag show any time soon.

RIVER

Mm, don't speak too soon. You never know when --

Caspar turns from the mirror and looks down to River.

CASPAR

No time soon.

(Antagonizing)

Respect my agency to make decisions, ok? No dress, and no show.

RIVER

But you look -

CASPAR

Respect -

RIVER

I'm just really gay for that dress -

CASPAR

My agency.

RIVER

HMPH.

Caspar plants a small kiss on the disgruntled River's forehead.

RIVER (CONT'D)

Fine. I'll be looking at shoes with Piper.

River leaves the room and Caspar removes the dress. After doing so, he pokes his head out of the room to ensure River is gone before slyly putting the dress into the bottom of his basket of soon-to-be-purchased items. He smiles to himself.