

Promises

an original screenplay by

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Joe and Sara, about 10 years old, walk together along a neighborhood street. Sara wears a new pair of NIKE cross trainers. Sara is silent and moody. Zach walks silently, watching her.

SARA

What are you doing!?

JOE

Walking.

SARA

Do it somewhere else.

JOE

No.

A few more steps.

JOE (CONT'D)

You should have gotten the part.
(few more steps)
You did it the best.

SARA

Go to hell, Joe.

JOE

(cupping both hands
to his chest and
swishing his hips)
Did you really want to wear those
coconuts?

SARA

(grinning)
No. You jerk.

Joe smiles, pleased at pulling Sara out of her funk.

They look at each other frequently and respond with smiles and expressive faces. When neither has anything to say, they are still relaxed and walk with shoulder touching shoulder. They cross the street and walk up the drive to her parent's large house. Sara walks to the door, twists the knob and expects it to open. She crashes into the door.

SARA (CONT'D)

Yeowwwh! You creep!

Joe shakes his head and looks at her with a "when will you learn" grin.

He turns around and walks to a decorative snail statue in the bushes, pulls out a handkerchief and retrieves the key with it as Sara continues to vent at her big brother. He wipes off the key and hands it to her.

SARA (CONT'D)

Why's he got to lock the stinkin' door? Afraid of the boogey man or something?

Joe walks to the door and unlocks it without opening it then returns the key to its hiding place. Meanwhile an angry Sara enters the home. Joe follows.

2 INT. SARA'S HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

2

SARA

(yelling)

Jeremy! Really? Why'd you lock me out!-

There is no answer as she walks through the den and down the hall to her bigger brother's room

SARA (CONT'D)

Jeremy!

JOE

I don't think he's here, Sara.

SARA

(furious)

No shit Sherlock!

Joe recoils at the unexpected rebuke. Sara looks at him, confused. She looks around and suddenly brightens.

SARA (CONT'D)

Hey. You wanna shoot some hoops?

JOE

Sure.

3 EXT. SARA'S DRIVEWAY - LATER

3

Sara and Joe shoot BASKETBALL at BASKETBALL HOOP in the driveway. She's just as good as he is, scoring as many baskets as he does.

JOE

How come you always have new stuff all the time?

SARA

Huhh? Oh the shoes

JOE
And game boy, and playstation and..

SARA
Its my mom. Always buying me crap
so I'll do stuff with her husband.

JOE
Your stepdad, I thought he was cool

SARA
He is. I like doing stuff with him,
but all the crap she buys makes me
feel like I have to.

Sara makes another basket. Zach catches the ball and dribbles out to "center court".

SARA (CONT'D)
How come we never go to your place?

JOE
Not someplace you'd want to go.

Zach shoots, misses and Sara gets the rebound.

SARA
Why not?

JOE
I don't want you anywhere near my
dad.

She takes a shot and Joe just watches it bounce away. She looks at him curious. Joe looks back and stares silently.

JOE (CONT'D)
He's not... nice.

SARA
He does...nt?

Sara looks horrified. Joe shakes his head no and hurries to pick up the ball. He avoids looking in Sara's direction as he grabs the ball and dribbles in for a layup. Sara doesn't move as she watches him. After the shot his eyes stay on the ball for a few seconds. He finally gives in and looks at her. He recoils at the anger in her eyes.

4 EXT. RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

4

Three middle school aged boys, RYAN, JOSH, and RICH smoke CIGARETTES and clown in Ryan's front yard. Joe, a few years younger than the three rides his bike toward them from a block or so away.

The three older boys poke each other and nod. As Joe rides between them on the sidewalk, the boys look at one another and quickly reach out and grab the handle bars of the bike and stop him.

RYAN
Hey, there momma's boy.

JOSH
Want a cigarette?

Zach shakes his head.

RICH
We gotta snake!

RYAN
Its cool. You wanna see it?

Joe shrugs, ditches his bike on the lawn and follows Ryan inside. The other two follow looking around to be sure nobody sees them.

5 EXT. RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD - CONTINUOUS 5

Down the street on her bike, Sara watches Joe follow Ryan inside the house.

SARA
Damn it, Joe! I told you to stay
away from them!

She pedals quickly to Ryan's house. She drops her bike next to Joe's and runs to the side of the house. She ducks down under one of the windows. She can see inside to the bedroom.

6 INT. RYAN'S ROOM- CONTINUOUS 6

Ryan and the other boys surround Joe at the side of the bed.

JOE
I don't see a snake?

RICH
(reaching for his
zipper)
I'll show you a snake.

The older boys laugh.

7 EXT. RYAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 7

Sara looks scared. She runs to the back of the house and darts in the back door.

8 INT. RYAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

8

Sara moves through the house as though she knows it well.

Sara runs carefully straight to the BAR and grabs a large GLASS DRINK SHAKER. She hefts it, sets it back on the counter and grabs a nearly full LIQUOR BOTTLE. She hefts the bottle and with a satisfied look of determination, she marches down the hall to the bedroom

9 INT. RYAN'S ROOM- CONTINUOUS - CONTINUOUS

9

The three boys stand around Zach. Ryan looks at the other boys and they look back expecting him to lead.

RYAN

(spins around, starts
to drop his pants)

Hey, Joey boy, you can kiss my ass.

Josh grabs Joe from behind, with one arm over his right shoulder and the other around his waist. Joe is bent over and Josh pushes him toward Ryan's bare rear.

Sara enters the bedroom and swings the LIQUOR BOTTLE against Ryan's head, knocks him to the ground. The bottle still in her hand.

SARA

YOU LEAVE HIM ALONE!

JOE

SARA??

JOSH

You fat bitch, man you're gonna pay
for that!

Josh lets go of Joe and launches at Sara. They crash against the wall.

JOSH (CONT'D)

I've missed these little things.

Joe pulls free from Rich and attacks Josh, knocking him off of Sara. Sara grabs the bottle, leaps up and turns to Rich.

SARA

(the bottle at ready)

You want somma me?!?!?

Rich shakes his head and turns to help Ryan who is just beginning to move again. Joe is pummeling Josh.

SARA (CONT'D)

Joe! Let's go!

Joe turns to Sara. She holds her hand out for him. He turns back to check on Josh, who is eager to stop fighting. Joe takes Sara's hand and they run out of the room and down the hall.

SARA (CONT'D)

This way.

They run to the front door.

10 EXT. RYAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

10

Sara and Joe burst out the front door, doesn't bother to close it. They jump on their bikes and pedal away furiously.

11 EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD PARK - CONTINUOUS

11

Joe and Sara speed away on their bikes. Joe screeches to a halt behind a large hedge. Sara tries to avoid him but slams into him and they both go flying behind the bushes. Sara lands on Joe, he's dazed and has the breath knocked out of him. He lies on his stomach and she is across him. She lifts off of him and lifts his arms over his head to help him catch his breath.

SARA

You OK?

JOE

I can't believe you did that! Did you see his head?

He starts to laugh as he realizes they are safe.

SARA

Yeah, well somebody has to look out for you, "Joey boy"!

JOE

Don't ever call me that again!

SARA

Me? Never.

JOE

How'd you... you know... know about them?

Sara is silent and stares at the ground. Joe sits up and tries to wrap around her, he gently pushes her hair out of her face. Their eyes meet for a moment.

SARA
 (looking around)
 Good hiding place.

12 EXT. RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD - AFTERNOON 3 YEARS LATER

12

Three years later.

Joe and Sara walk home from school together, slowly, both look forlorn. Sara carries a small PURSE.

SARA
 I can't believe you're really moving.

JOE
 Yeah.

SARA
 You'll write me. Right? If I write you?

Joe just looks at her.

SARA (CONT'D)
 JOE! PROMISE!

JOE
 Sure. I promise.

They stand in silence.

SARA
 Who's gonna look after you?

Joe shrugs. He pulls her close, looks square in her eyes.

JOE
 And who's going to listen to you,
 Sara MacDonald?

Sara digs in her PURSE. A tampon pops out and falls to the ground. She panics, looking at Joe and back to the tampon. Joe calmly pulls out his handkerchief, picks the tampon up and hands it to her.

SARA
 Thanks.

She looks at him carefully, her body relaxes and she smiles. She reaches into the purse again and pulls out a PHOTO STRIP of the two of them clowning in a photo booth. On the back is handwritten in childish script "Sara & Joe BFF". She carefully rips it in half. She shoves the half that says "Sara &" in his hand.

He takes it, shoves it in his pocket, looks at the ground.

SARA (CONT'D)
 Stay away from jerks.
 (thinks for a moment)
 Don't be a jerk.

With tears in her eyes she gives him a hug. He holds on to her like he will never let go.

13 INT. KRISTIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - 22 YEARS LATER 13

KRISTEN, 30 something woman, sleeps soundly with a contented smile on her pretty face. Zach, in his 30's, raises up on an elbow and looks her over. She sleeps soundly. He looks around, trapped. Another look at Kristin and he slides one leg off the bed. Checks her again and slides far enough off the bed to take most of his weight on the free leg. He push-ups to a tripod and his other leg escapes. She moves and he quickly lowers himself to her, nuzzling mechanically. She squirms up against him and smiles. He waits until she snores. Stifles a laugh and pushes himself back and off the bed. With a sigh of relief he picks up his clothes and steps through the bedroom door.

14 INT. KRISTIN'S DEN - CONTINUOUS 14

Zach pulls up his pants as he enters the den and finishes dressing. He fishes out his phone and sees a text message. A noise in the other room. He freezes. It's quiet. He quietly hurries out the door, pausing only to straighten a picture on the wall.

15 EXT. KRISTIN'S FRONT YARD - CONTINUOUS 15

Zach looks at ZACH'S PHONE. There is a voice mail from his mother. He hits a few keys on the phone and puts the phone to his ear.

OLIVIA (V.O.)
 Honey, its your mom... I need your help. The drugstore won't give me my pills and, well, I really can't do without them. Don't worry, I just ran out today. Thanks, honey.

Zach pockets the phone and shakes his head.

ZACH
 Crap, can't she just drive herself?

Zach opens his car door, inspects the seat. He takes a neatly folded kerchief out of his back pocket, and wipes the seat off with it. He stuffs the kerchief into a small bag full of clean, used kerchiefs.

16 EXT. ZACH'S CAR ON INTERSTATE - DAY

16

Zach is on the open road driving. The car is neat and detailed. Zach is on ZACH'S PHONE.

ZACH

What's going on, Mom?

OLIVIA

I don't know. They won't give me my prescriptions.

ZACH

What's the phone number?

OLIVIA

I don't think that will do it.

(pause)

It's just... you promised you'd help me if I ever needed it... and...I... I... think there are money issues, honey.

ZACH

Money? I thought things were great at the shop?

OLIVIA

Seems like it. I mean, every time we drive by they all look so busy.

ZACH

So what's the problem? Isn't Terry sending you money?

OLIVIA

Well, that's the thing. He isn't. Since he started running things just before your dad died, I haven't gotten anything.

ZACH

I.. I don't understand, you haven't gotten any money in six months?

OLIVIA

No...no... I haven't.

ZACH

(sighs)

Okay. See you soon.

Zach disconnects and finds another number on speed dial. He takes a deep breath and presses the button.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Hey, Jack, I've been thinking Ricky's ready to run the kitchen solo 'n this would be a slow night to start him out.

JACK (V.O.)

Zach, Damn it. I need you to show up when you're scheduled.

ZACH

Its just one night.

JACK (V.O.)

That's not the point.

ZACH

My mom's got some problem with her meds. Ricky's ready, lets give him his break.

JACK (V.O.)

Ok, Zach. But I'm telling you, if you aren't back in my kitchen tomorrow, it'll be permanent.

ZACH

Don't worry I'll...

Click as Jack hangs up.

ZACH (CONT'D)

... be there...

17 EXT. ZACH'S CAR NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS - CONTINUOUS 17

Zach drives onto his mother's street and pulls into her driveway. It's a nice, neat home with a TRASH CAN and recycling bins in front of the garage door that hasn't been opened in a while. He gets out, walks to the door, and enters without knocking.

18 INT. MOM'S HOUSE ENTRY - CONTINUOUS 18

The house is neat and well cared for. Zach enters. He straightens pictures and ITEMS ON TABLES as he passes. There is a loose pile of MAIL and LETTER FROM BANK. He looks through them quickly and then stacks them perfectly and square to the edges of the table.

ZACH

Mom!

OLIVIA (O.S.)

Thank the good Lord.

(MORE)

OLIVIA (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 (enters)
 I'm afraid I'm not feeling so well
 without my medicine.
 (her hands shake)

ZACH
 I don't get it, you said the shop's
 doing well?

OLIVIA
 Ohh, yes. And I hear they have a
 cute new girl mechanic...maybe you
 can meet her?

ZACH
 That's great mom, I didn't come here
 to meet someone. I've gotta be back
 tomorrow.

OLIVIA
 Ohh.
 (pause)
 I still don't understand boycotting
 your own father's funeral.

ZACH
 Boycotted? Yeah, that's about right.

OLIVIA
 He was your father.

Zach gives her a cold look.

ZACH
 There must be some confusion. Terry's
 probably putting it in the bank
 somewhere. Doesn't know you can't
 get to it.

OLIVIA
 Oh, I can.

ZACH
 So, what's the problem? Why did
 you drag me here?

OLIVIA
 Zach, there's nothing there. I
 checked.

JERRY, middle aged banker in a shirt and tie, peers at a
 COMPUTER screen and spins it around so Zach can see.

JERRY

No, I'm sorry. There's not much in any of the shop accounts. The reserves are gone Zach. Tapped dry. Your mother has to stop taking so much money out of the business. Put something back.

ZACH

Yeah. Mom...

JERRY

I assume you're here about the letter?

ZACH

What letter?

JERRY

We sent a demand letter to the shop and a copy to your mom... Oh let me see, five days ago. We haven't had a payment on the business loan since your dad passed.

ZACH

What's in the house account.

JERRY

(pulling up Olivia's
account history)

Well. Let's see. Odd. Zach the money's not here.

(turning to Zach)

What's she doing with all of it?

Jerry clicks a couple of buttons on the computer screen and the printer begins to hum and print the DEMAND LETTER.

ZACH

That's just it. She's not.

JERRY

Well, that don't make a lick of sense. Ever time I drive by that place it's as busy as a bee hive. Busier than its been in years. Well, I'm sure you'll get it straightened out.

ZACH

Yeah

JERRY

(looking at the screen)
 You have until next Wednesday to
 make a payment. Just let me know
 when it's in the system. I'll see
 if I can get them to back off
 foreclosure.

(handing the printout
 to Zach)

Here's the letter.

(pause)

You are so much like your dad. We
 really miss him around here, you
 know? He always helped out when anyone
 needed anything.

Zach stuffs the letter in his pocket.

ZACH

Oh, okay, thanks. Wednesday.

20 INT. PHARMACY - LATER

20

Zach stands at the prescription checkout counter. Zach is holding SEVERAL BAGS OF PRESCRIPTIONS with a \$196.00 PRICE TAG. One PRESCRIPTION TAG reads "1.0 MG KLONOPIN 2X DAILY AND AS NEEDED FOR ANXIETY." He sets the bags on the counter, and pulls out his WALLET, opens it and counts out the CASH. All that's left in the wallet is one DOLLAR and the back of ZACHS TORN PHOTO. He hands the cash to the cashier.

21 EXT. ZACH'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

21

Zach drives by the shop, staring at it as he drives by. He makes a decision and a sudden U turn.

22 INT. SHOP GARAGE CONTINUOUS

22

Small feet and a woman's voice comes from under the car.

MAC (O.S.)

It's history, like Khe Sanh, it
 doesn't matter anymore.

TERRY, the auto repair shop's manager, walks in holding a CLIPBOARD and a BOTTLE OF PERFUME with a bow on it. He looks at the bottle proudly.

MAC (O.S.) (CONT'D)

This whole thing stinks, Captain. I
 know someone has to report it... but
 it doesn't have to be me!

DERRICK, an older man wearing company coveralls holds a TOOL and a GREASE CLOTH, stands near RAPHAEL, a middle aged

hispanic man, also wearing company coverall's, puts up some TOOLS on the bench. They watch TERRY and glance at each other.

DERRICK

That ain't gonna go well....

Raphael shakes his head in agreement. TERRY kneels down at the rear of the car next to the feet.

TERRY

Hey, Mac!

MAC (O.S.)

I gotta go, How about next time I call you?

(hangs up phone)

What do YOU want?

MAC, a beautiful 30s woman with grease marks all over her face and no makeup, wearing company coverall's rolls herself out on a CREEPER.

TERRY

Hey there beautiful. Sorry to interrupt your call, but I got 'ya something. You didn't need him anyway.

MAC

Her, And for once you're right.

Terry reacts to the her with interest. She looks at the PERFUME in his hand and rolls herself back under the car. TERRY stands.

TERRY

Now that's no way to be girlfriend. The saleslady said this bottle is the best thing in the store.

MAC

(from under the car)

So give it to her.

TERRY

Come'on sweetie. You know you want me...

MAC

In your dreams.

Terry sets the perfume on the workbench and sees Raphael and Derrick watching. He turns back to Mac.

TERRY

And clean this place up!

Mac gives a derisive snort in response. A customer walks into the shop. Terry, smiles broadly as he greets them.

23 EXT. SHOP PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

23

Terry walks with the customers to their repaired car. He shows them the invoice. They hand him a WAD OF CASH that he roughly counts and secretively stuffs in his pocket. He shakes their hand and hands them the car KEY. As he walks away, Zach pulls in to the space on the other side of the customer's car. Terry pulls the TRIPLICATE INVOICE off the CLIPBOARD and shoves it into his pocket after the money.

As the customer backs out Terry sees Zach getting out of his car. He moves quickly to greet Zach.

TERRY

Hey.. What are.. Great to see ya man!

Zach glances at Terry as he walks into the busy shop and looks around. Terry follows him closely. Zach turns back to Terry who extends his hand in friendship.

24 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

24

Zach takes the hand as Terry puts his free arm across Zach's shoulder. Zach overreacts quickly to the arm and moves back.

TERRY

How are things in the chef business?

ZACH

Really cooking. Hey, Terry. I just talked to mom. She says she hasn't gotten anything since you took over.

TERRY

There's a recession going on, man.
(Terry guides/draggs
Zach toward the office)
Hasn't anybody told you?

ZACH

Yeah, sure, I get it... it's just...
wow... there are a lota cars here...

TERRY

(puffs out his chest)
What're you saying dude?

ZACH

Mom needs her meds man....I...I don't understand why the payments are so far behind.

TERRY

Dude! This is MY place now.

Backing through the door in front of Terry.

ZACH

Really?

25 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

25

Mac gets up off the creeper and looks up at the raised voices. She heads toward the office door to see what is going on.

TERRY (O.S.)

You questioning me? You walked away man! This is mine. He owes me!

26 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

26

Mac stands in the doorway, unseen by Terry or Zach.

ZACH

Owes you? You needed a job and we gave you one.

(turning to leave out
the front door)

Its time to find out what you've been up to.

Terry grabs him from behind, one arm over his shoulder and the other around his waist. The men gyrate into the shop.

27 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

27

Terry struggles with the panicking Zach as they swing out of the office and past Mac. Derrick and Raphael see Mac at the door and exchange looks. Derrick pulls a TWENTY from his pocket and slaps it down on the bench.

DERRICK

On Mac.

RAPHAEL

(takes a TWENTY and
puts it on the bench
with Derrick's)

You're on.

28 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

28

Mac grabs a heavy CHEATER BAR and smiles as she swings down hard on Terry's back. Terry collapses to his hands and one hip. He lets go of Zach and turns to see what hit him.

TERRY

Shit! Bitch...

A staggering Zach sees the INVOICE sticking out of Terry's pocket. He reaches for it. Terry starts to stop him, but sees Mac rear back with the CHEATER BAR.

TERRY (CONT'D)

I was going to file that.

ZACH

All three parts? Even the customer's copy? What else is in here.

Zach shoves his hand into Terry's pocket. Derrick and Raphael watch from the garage door way.

TERRY

(smiles weakly)

Hey we're friends but...

Terry looks again at Mac and shuts up. Zach pulls a WAD WITH TWO MORE INVOICES IN TRIPLICATE and a BUNCH OF CASH.

RAPHAEL

Lucy, you got some 'splainin to do.

Terry turns to give Raphael a dirty look snapping around to check on Mac. He sees she isn't looming over him with the steel bar anymore. He starts to get up as she reappears with the PERFUME BOTTLE. She dumps most of the bottle on Terry.

MAC

Here's your down payment back.

(sniffs)

Really, that was the best thing in the store?

ZACH

Get out of here!

Terry glares at them both and backs out the door.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Wow!

Zach starts to laugh in relief as he realizes it's over. He gathers up the invoices and cash then looks at Mac.

Their eyes lock and they stare, confused, for a moment.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Thanks.

MAC

Yeah, well, I enjoyed it more than you did.

Zach reaches out to shake her hand.

MAC (CONT'D)

I'm Mac.

ZACH

Zach.

MAC

Glad to meet you ... boss?

Shell shocked, Zach just stares at her and slowly turns away. Mac heads back to her work bay. As she passes Raphael she shakes out the last drops from the PERFUME BOTTLE on Raphael.

MAC (CONT'D)

That's for betting against me!

She eyes the TWO TWENTIES on the bench and reaches back to snatch them both.

MAC (CONT'D)

You know that's against the law.

The men, stand in the doorway, high five each other and turn back to Zach who stands dazed in the office doorway holding the cash and invoices before turning into the office.

29 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

29

Zach stands in the office. The cash and invoices are tossed on the desk. First Raphael then Derrick enter.

RAPHAEL

You OK man?

ZACH

Yeah, yeah, I'm good.

RAPHAEL

What you doin' here?

ZACH

I.. I don't know.

DERRICK
 (looking at the door)
 He gone?

ZACH
 I guess.

DERRICK
 That make you boss?

Zach shakes his head, no. Derrick and Raphael return to the garage. Zach starts to sit in Terry's, now his, chair at the desk, stops himself, pulls a neatly folded KERCHIEF out of his pocket, wipes down the chair, then sits, refolding the kerchief and sticking it into another pocket. He looks around the office and pulls out ZACHS PHONE. He looks at it for a moment before taking a deep breath and punching the speed dial.

ZACH
 Hey Jack. How's Ricky doing?
 (pause)
 That's great. Told you he could do it.. Jack, there are some problems here. I'm going to need another day.. Or two.

Zach listens for a moment. Then

ZACH (CONT'D)
 Jack! No, I...

Zach tosses his phone into the pile on the desk. He stares for a moment before pulling the DEMAND LETTER from his pocket. He looks at it.

ZACH (CONT'D)
 Wednesday

Zach shakes his head. He sorts and stacks the money before folding it and starting to shove it in his pocket. He pulls his hand back out of the pocket, shifts the money to the other hand and then pulls the DEMAND LETTER out of the pocket. He looks at the letter, puts it with the cash and shoves it all into his pocket, strides out of the office.

30 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

30

Raphael sorts BOXES OF AUTO PARTS on a bench as Zach leaves the office headed for the door. Zach stops and turns to Raphael.

ZACH
 Can ya'll lock up?

RAPHAEL

Sure boss.

Zach blanches at being called Boss.

RAPHAEL (CONT'D)

You gonna be back in the morning?

ZACH

(looking around with
an unhappy face)

I guess so.

RAPHAEL

Its good to have you back.

Zach forces a smile and nods before walking out of the shop.

Derrick walks up to Raphael holding out another TWENTY DOLLAR BILL and looking at the door and back at the twenty.

RAPHAEL (CONT'D)

I ain't taking that one, bro.

31 EXT. SHOP PARKING LOT - MORNING 31

The garage parking lot is busy as Zach pulls up to the shop, selects the space furthest from the door. He gets out and looks around the parking lot and the shop. He looks at the sign for a moment, takes a breath and walks in.

32 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS 32

Zach walks through the shop directly to the office. Derrick, Raphael, and Mac are huddled together talking. They watch him walk in. Zach looks over at them and quickly turns back to the office door. He disappears into the office. Mac picks up a stack of parts from the bench and walks to her work bay.

RAPHAEL

Should'a taken that one.

Raphael turns and heads to his bay. Derrick stares at the office door for a moment before turning away.

33 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 33

Zach enters OLD INVOICES into the COMPUTER accounting software, staring at them, then the screen, then back at the invoices. There is a NOTE PAD WITH MISSING INVOICE scrawled across the top. He is halfway through the second column of numbers. The invoices have dollar values next to them.

Derrick pokes his head in.

DERRICK

Hey boss, this guy's here to get his car.

Zach looks up, looks around for the DONE CLIPBOARD, grabs it and heads out the door behind Derrick.

34 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

34

Derrick heads back to his work bay without another word, so Zach looks around and sees the customer, GRABINSKI, standing at the door. Zach stands up and smiles at the customer as he walks over to Grabinski standing with a friend, KYLE.

GRABINSKI

Where's Terry?

ZACH

He's off today.

GRABINSKI

Oh, huh, I'll come back tomorrow.

ZACH

He won't be back.. Then, either. What's your name? Let's get you back in your car.

GRABINSKI

Grabinski. G-R-A-B-I-NSKI.

Zach looks through the invoices on the DONE CLIPBOARD.

ZACH

Here we are. Let's see, Oh you have the blue Focus. Great cars. Replaced your timing belt and everything else looked great. Raphael did this one and he loves his Fords. Looks like the estimate was spot on and the total is four hundred eighty-two fifty.

GRABINSKI

He said it would only be three hundred.

ZACH

Is this your signature?

GRABINSKI

Yeah.

ZACH

Well, then he said it would be...

(MORE)

ZACH (CONT'D)
 (checking)
 Four hundred hundred eighty-two fifty.
 Right there.

GRABINSKI
 But the cash discount?

ZACH
 Cash discount?

KYLE
 Everyone knows ya'll have like a
 discount if you bring cash.

ZACH
 What? NO we don't. Look, its four
 hundred eighty-two fifty.. just like
 it says on the estimate.

GRABINSKI
 I don't have that much.

ZACH
 OK, well The first two days are free
 then its thirty dollars a day for
 storage. Just let me know when you
 are ready to pick it up.

Grabinski and Kyle walk off mumbling to each other and looking
 back at Zach.

35 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

35

Zach returns to his desk.

ZACH
 Cash discount?

Zach pulls up the accounting program on his COMPUTER. Then
 thumbs through the PILE OF INVOICES. He stares for a moment.

ZACH (CONT'D)
 No cash sales. Not one. Crap.

Derrick walks into the doorway.

DERRICK
 You talking to me, boss?

ZACH
 You ever take in a cash sale?

DERRICK

Nahh. Terry didn't trust anyone
with cash.

Just then Jerry (the banker) walks through the front door
carrying an ENVELOPE.

JERRY

Hey. Zach. Derrick.

Derrick nods at him and walks back to the shop.

JERRY (CONT'D)

How's it goin'?

ZACH

Not one cash sale in five months.

JERRY

Sounds like you had a fox in the
henhouse. Sorry to hear that.

ZACH

Yeah, well, I can't prove anything.
He wasn't stupid.

JERRY

I'm sorry, Zach. Bank examiners
don't really care...Your dad would
be kicking some tail!

(pause)

I'm sorry Zach, but the bank has to
have some kind of payment by
Wednesday. No two ways about it.
Can you do it?

ZACH

I don't know. Uhm, yeah, I.. I
think we can make it.

JERRY

(handing the demand
letter to ZACH)

...and...I gotta have eight grand by
the end of the month, or we have to
foreclose. I'm sorry. I really
am... your Dad would have a cow.

36 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS - EVENING- MONTAGE

36

Mechanics have gone home, the shop is empty. Zach walks in
from the office, takes a look around.

ZACH

This place is a nasty...

He rolls up his sleeves, looks around for something, finds a pair of gloves, and shoves them onto his hands. He pulls out a BROOM and starts frantically sweeping. He sets the broom down now and again to pick up TOOLS, he sets the tools on a bench and continues. Sets the broom aside once he has a pile of tools.

He finds. BOTTLE OF WHISKEY, PORNOGRAPHY, CONDOMS, CORNER OF ENVELOPE FROM AN ATTORNEY listed as captain, USN, retired, and CHILDREN'S TOYS.

Zach pulls things out of a corner and exposes an ancient mattress. He recoils and repeatedly wipes his hand where it touched the mattress. He looks around desperately, turns to his pile of boxes and trash and throws everything on the pile onto the mattress. He grabs items from other parts of the shop and throws them onto the pile.

Finally, he runs to the office and slams the door behind him.

37 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 37

Zach walks quickly to his chair and drops into it. He sits motionless, staring straight ahead, then jumps up, and starts cleaning again.

38 EXT. SHOP PARKING LOT - MORNING 38

Bright sunny morning as Mac pulls into a parking space, gets out of her car. Her face is clean, her hair pulled back. No makeup but we can see how pretty she really is. She opens the door and goes inside.

39 INT. SHOP OFFICE - MORNING 39

Mac takes in the sparkling clean, now well organized space. Zach stands at the COFFEE POT, looking tired and wearing the same clothes as yesterday, pouring himself a CUP.

MAC

Whose mother showed up?

An exhausted, dulled Zach puts the pot down, looks at Mac dumbly, then reaches for a cup and pours. He holds it out for her. Mac walks over and takes it, eyeing Zach carefully.

MAC (CONT'D)

Thanks. You look like hell.

ZACH

Could be worse... If you hadn't saved my bacon yesterday.

MAC
My pleasure, entirely. Been known
to like bacon.

Zach smiles in spite of himself.

MAC (CONT'D)
(pause)
So... you're Frank's kid... This
your place now?

ZACH
For the moment... I'm a chef.

MAC
That why it looks like you could eat
in here?
(takes a sip of coffee)
And why this tastes so good?

ZACH
Yeah. I guess so.

MAC
I want to make this perfectly clear,
I don't do dishes or cook... or wait
tables so if you're planning on
turning this into some fancy garage
slash restaurant, I'm out o' here.

ZACH
(smiling)
No, I was thinking more along the
lines of the "Greasy Wench". You
know, short shorts and deep fried
everything.

MAC
What'll you have on tap? Maybe I'll
be back ... for lunch.

Mac turns toward her work bay

ZACH
Mac?

Mac turns back toward him.

ZACH (CONT'D)
I'm not turning it into a restaurant.

MAC
Good to know

Mac walks off and Zach looks around

ZACH

(pause)

Not yet.

40 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

40

Mac looks at the clean, organized, shop and shakes her head, annoyed.

Series of shots, on CREEPER, at bench, working on brakes where she reaches for a tool, knowing its there, but its not.

Zach walks by at one of these times.

MAC

Hey! Next time you get your panties in a wad, could you like scrub a toilet or bake a cake or something?

ZACH

Why, what's the matter?

MAC

I know this place was a mess and I appreciate your cleaning up, but don't mess with my tools again.

ZACH

Your tools were all over the place. You HAD to be wasting time looking for them.

MAC

NO!, They were all over the place exactly where I need them. NOW I'm wasting time looking for them.

Zach looks around, notes where the tools are.

ZACH

Ok. I'll clean around them.

MAC

Thanks boss.

Mac turns back to her work, Zach pauses, admires her before moving on.

41 EXT. SHOP PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

41

Terry pulls up in his late model, shiny truck, parks. Climbs out and makes a beeline for the office.

42 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

42

Derrick and Raphael see Terry's truck pull up and immediately grab HEAVY TOOLS and head for the doorway. Terry enters to see Derrick and Raphael blocking his way.

TERRY

Out of my way, that asshole and his family owe me.

DERRICK

You got it wrong. You owe us .. asshole.

RAPHAEL

This place goes under we lose our jobs.

Terry looks them over, decides this isn't the right time to get in the office. He backs up to the door and is alarmed to see Mac standing nearby.

MAC

Darn, they didn't need me!

TERRY

We could'a had fun girl.

Terry backs out the front door.

43 INT. SHOP OFFICE - AFTERNOON

43

Zach is at the counter with MR. CHARLES, a 40ish, man, holding an ESTIMATE in his hand.

ZACH

Looks like you took quite a bump. Anyone hurt?

MR.CHARLES

Naaah, I cracked the glass in my freakin' phone though.

ZACH

Texting?

MR.CHARLES

Yeah?

Zach doesn't react.

ZACH

The swingarms are probably OK, but the frame's bent.

(MORE)

ZACH (CONT'D)

We'll put in a special kit so we can get it aligned and you'll be good to go. Oh and we'll also need a new tire that matches the others and a used rim on that front wheel. Unless you want to spring for a new one?

Zach places the ESTIMATE in front of MR. CHARLES who looks at it, frowning.

MR.CHARLES

Maaann? That stupid text is costing me a fortune. What's it with the cash discount?

ZACH

Sorry. There is no cash discount.

MR.CHARLES

Grant told me you guys got a thirty percent discount for cash money.

ZACH

Thirty percent! No. We do really good work here and stand behind it. Been here twenty years. Ask anyone in town.

MR.CHARLES

Brother...geez... I wasn't planning on...well, okay... Your dad was always a good guy. When'll it be ready?

ZACH

This is Thursday. Tuesday.. afternoon.

MR.CHARLES

Okay. See you then.

Mr. Charles starts away

ZACH

Here take a card so you can check on it.

MR.CHARLES

(turns back to get the card)

Ok. Thanks

Zach looks over to see GRABINSKI who stands looking around nervously.

ZACH
Gar.. Grabinski?

GRABINSKI
Yeah

ZACH
Here for your car?

GRABINSKI
Yeah. But I can't

ZACH
Why?

GRABINSKI
Man, I don't got that much!

Zach looks at the LETTER left by Jerry and turns back to Grabinski.

ZACH
OK Mister Grabinski. I'll tell you what I'll do.. I mean this isn't right for either one of us. You didn't do anything wrong. That guy made a deal he didn't have a right to make.

GRABINSKI
(brightening)
Yeah.

ZACH
I'll knock a hundred dollars off so its only three hundred eighty-two fifty.. I don't want to take your car. What am I saying.. I'm not going to take your car. Look, can you meet me almost halfway?

Grabinski pulls out his WALLET and starts pulling out a collection of BILLS and a JOINT. He counts. There is \$374.. And the JOINT. He picks up the joint and looks at Zach.

Zach shakes his head and slides a TWENTY and 14 ONES back to GRABINSKI.

ZACH (CONT'D)
Here. We're good.

Grabinski shoves the \$34 and joint back in his WALLET as Zach turns to get his KEYS.

GRABINSKI

Thanks, man.

Zach nods

44 INT. SHOP GARAGE - DAY

44

Mac searches for another missing tool on her bench.

MAC

(to herself, looking
back at the office)

Damn I wish he'd leave my stuff alone.

She looks around the shop for her tool.

MAC (CONT'D)

Hey, Derrick. Can I borrow your
torque wrench. Momma cleaned my
room and I can't find anything.

DERRICK

Sure, it's just an old beam wrench.

Derrick picks up the wrench and hands it to Mac.

DERRICK (CONT'D)

Never could spring for one of those
clicky ones.

MAC

Me either. We had one at imoto. It
was sweet.

RAPHAEL

Imoto? Italian Motor Sports. The
Lambo 'n Maserati dealer?

MAC

Yeah, but I worked in the tuning
shop. I did Dick Parker's 'vette
last year.

DERRICK

The regional qualifier?

MAC

Yeah.

DERRICK

Damn, girl! How come you're not
still there?

MAC

Complicated.

Raphael looks her over from head to toe. Mac just watches him. Raphael gives an appreciative smile before looking her in the eye.

RAPHAEL

I bet.

She stares, daring him.

RAPHAEL (CONT'D)

Mac, no man's going to look at you and not think about it. We can't help it.

MAC

I don't care if you think about it, just keep THAT to yourself. I've had it up to here with captains... bosses...that think they can...

DERRICK

Captains? You in the army?

MAC

Marines, you ground pounding bullet sponge. Armored stuff. Big diesels and gas turbines.

DERRICK

Jarhead? That explains alot.

RAPHAEL

We tuned racers in the old days. We were really good, too.

DERRICK

Everyone figured if we could do that we could for sure fix their car. Where were you?

MAC

So why'd you stop?

RAPHAEL

Somebody's got to shmooze the racers and get 'em in the door.

DERRICK

When J..Zach left, the old man just didn't have the heart for it anymore.

Mac nods her head, but looks at Derrick inquisitively.

Raphael sees the mattress with stuff piled on it.

RAPHAEL

What's this?

Derrick walks over and leans into the room. He moves a box off of the mattress

DERRICK

Looks like a bunch of trash

MAC

Wonder how the busboy missed this?

Derrick picks up an armload of trash and heads to the door

DERRICK

I don't know.

Raphael picks up more trash and follows Derrick. Mac watches them walk off, grabs the mattress and drags it after them.

45 EXT. ZACH'S CAR DRIVING BY SHOP - NIGHT

45

Zach driving at night. His phone buzzes and he takes it out. The message is from Kristin. He shakes his head and shoves the phone back in this pocket.

ZACH

Just leave me the F alone!

Zach drives by the shop and sees lights on. He does a U-turn and pulls in to investigate.

46 INT. SHOP GARAGE - NIGHT

46

Mac leans over the engine on an old BMW 3 series. ZACH walks in. He cautiously moves toward the light before recognizing Mac.

ZACH

Hey, what're you doing here so late?

Mac is startled and the WRENCH slips, banging her knuckles. She looks at the blood gathering on her knuckles and glares at Zach

MAC

OUCH! Hey, don't scare me like that.

Mac wraps a DIRTY RAG around her bleeding hand and goes back to work.

ZACH

Sorry, you OK.

Mac only gives him a go away look.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Why're you here so late?

MAC

Renee deploys in two weeks. Be gone almost a year. Taking a vacation with her kids on Monday.

Zach wanders over to the workbench, looks at the PAPERS.

ZACH

Renee? Herzog?

MAC

Yeah

ZACH

Timing belt replacement and coolant flush? So what's the rush?

Mac sets the belt cover aside

MAC

You don't drive two thousand miles across the desert with kids if the belt's never been changed.

Zach looks at the estimate again. Puts it back on the wall, notices the broom is leaning against one of the benches. Mac removes the next part

ZACH

A hundred and thirty thousand miles on a beamer timing belt?

Zach sees the broom leaning against the wall and picks it up to put it away.

ZACH (CONT'D)

That's not too bright. Why'd she wait so long?

He carries the broom to the back room. Stands in the doorway, holds the broom as he talks to Mac.

MAC

Inherited it. Doesn't really know the car, just that it was her dad's.

ZACH

So?

MAC

Seems some people wanna hang onto their Dad when they're gone.

ZACH
I've heard that.

He sets the broom in the back room where it belongs.

47 INT. SHOP BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS 47

Zach does a double takes as he see's the pile of trash - and the mattress - are gone.

48 INT. SHOP GARAGE - CONTINUOUS 48

Zach turns back to Mac.

MAC
Never quite got it myself either.

ZACH
Hey... what happened here?

MAC
What? Where?

ZACH
Here. This room. The pile of crap back here.

Zach stares where the pile used to be. Mac looks over and sees him standing frozen. She sets the tool down and moves to him.

MAC
(looking around the corner to see what Zach is staring out)
Derrick and Raphael tossed it. I dragged some nasty mattress out to the dumpster.

Mac walks back to the car and bends over the engine working.

MAC (CONT'D)
Looked like it'd been used, if you know what I mean.

Zach looks back at her and slowly walks toward the car

ZACH
Yeah.

MAC
(pause)
Hey, could you hand me that twenty millimeter socket?

ZACH
For the cam sprocket?

MAC
Yeah

Zach finds the 22 MM SOCKET and hands it to her. She snaps it onto the AIR WRENCH and looks at it, then at Zach. She reaches to remove the socket.

MAC (CONT'D)
I said the twenty.

ZACH
Yeah, but you need a twenty-two.
(they stare at each
other for a moment)
Just try it!

Mac turns back to the engine, the SOCKET fits and she pulls the NUT, sets down the wrench and begins removing the sprocket.

MAC
How'd you know that?

ZACH
Worked on a lot of these sixes.

MAC
Didn't know you were a mechanic.

ZACH
Another life

MAC
With your dad?

ZACH
Another life.

Quiet while she works.

ZACH (CONT'D)
You had dinner?

MAC
(warily)
No.

ZACH
How about a burger from Bubba's?

MAC
With onion rings?

ZACH

Sure.

Zach gets up to leave

MAC

And a strawberry shake

ZACH

Got it.

Zach leaves and MAC keeps working

49 INT. SHOP GARAGE - LATER

49

Mac is finishing up the timing belt. As Zach returns with the FOOD and Mac's SHAKE and another PAPER CUP. She picks up the JUG OF ANTIFREEZE and pours it into the radiator. Zach sets the food down and picks up a BUCKET.

ZACH

Gallon and a half of water?

MAC

Yeah, thanks.

Zach gets the water and hands the BUCKET to Mac. She declines.

MAC (CONT'D)

Be my guest.

Mac retrieves her BURGER and ONION RINGS as Zach pours the water into the radiator. She tests one of the DRINKS, makes a face and tries the other one and smiles.

Without thinking, Zach wipes off the driver's seat and gets in. He suddenly pauses and looks at Mac who is watching him with a grin.

ZACH

May I?

Mac bows slightly and gestures for him to proceed. Zach starts the car, lets it run about 5 seconds revs it slightly and turns it off. Mac is devouring her food. Zach looks over the engine, then kneels to look at the floor beneath it. He nods appreciation and walks over to where Mac is eating. He picks up his DRINK and takes a long swig.

MAC

What's in that?

Zach shows her a PINT OF RUM.

MAC (CONT'D)

Hmm. Must not have put enough in.

Zach takes the drink and looks at her. She looks uncomfortable.

MAC (CONT'D)

You're looking for new business, right?

ZACH

Yeah!

MAC

Lot of racers would bring their cars in if you'd put out the word I'm here. I've worked for the best.

ZACH

WE ARE NOT WORKING ON RACE CARS!

MAC

Really? You can afford to say "no"?

ZACH

NO!

They both hear a sound, the clink of a lock being turned. Their heads swivel in unison. Zach stands up and moves to investigate. Mac picks up a long TIRE IRON and follows.

50 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

50

Terry walks quickly toward the office door as Zach snaps the light on.

ZACH

Can I help you with something.

Terry stops and turns quickly.

TERRY

What the hell are...
(sees them both)
ya'll doing here?

ZACH

This is my place.

TERRY

(leering at MAC)
I suppose that its yours now, too?
(turns to Zach)
Still living with momma? Got to sneak in here to get some?

Furious, Mac lifts the TIRE IRON, ready to swing and moves in on Terry. Panic crosses TERRY's face

TERRY (CONT'D)

Oh ohhh shit!

Terry spins and dashes away, smashing into the locked exit door. He quickly looks over his shoulder at Mac rearing back to throw the heavy TIRE IRON at him. He opens the door and disappears into the night as the TIRE IRON slams through the wall by the door.

Zach and Mac look at the TIRE IRON sticking out of the wall and burst into laughter.

ZACH

I can't believe you did that!

MAC

Yeah, well somebody has to look out for you!

With slightly confused looks, their eyes meet as cohorts, even friends. Zach looks around at the shop and Mac and smiles contentedly.

51 INT. SHOP GARAGE - MORNING

51

Derrick and Raphael are looking at the damage by the door as Mac walks in.

RAPHAEL

What happened here?

MAC

Workin' late on the Herzog beamer and I saw a rat.

DERRICK

Would that rat be, I don't know, six foot tall, brown hair, and ugly?

MAC

Yeah, how'd you know?

DERRICK

Trying to break into the office?

MAC

Yeah.

DERRICK

(looking at Raphael)

He sure does want in that office, bro.

Mac looks at the two mechanics who seem to be scheming something as Zach walks in.

ZACH

Hey guys.

RAPHAEL

Hey boss, we're just examining the lady's needle work.

ZACH

I don't know how pretty it is but its very expressive.

DERRICK

What's he want, anyway?

ZACH

(shrugs)

Don't worry about it. Let's get to work. We've got banks to pay.

Derrick and Raphael walk off conspiring. Mac starts to follow.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Hey, Mac. If you really want to help build some business there's a meetup tonight. Go with me.

MAC

(looks at the TIRE
IRON sticking out of
the wall)

Why, for my... people skills?

ZACH

Yeah, and I think it would be good to put some faces behind the name.

MAC

Should I wear something really low cut and maybe some high heels?

ZACH

You have heels?

MAC

Asshole!

ZACH

Wear what you're wearing. I don't care...just... go!

MAC
Wear what I'm wearing, now?

ZACH
(smiling)
Yeah, just wash your hair or something.

Mac nods.

52 EXT. MEETUP LOCATION PARKING LOT - EVENING

52

Zach stands on the sidewalk wearing a nice shirt and sport coat. Mac pulls up in an old sports car. She gets out wearing a very pretty dress, moderate heels and a strut. His jaw drops and she glows at his reaction.

MAC
This what you had in mind, boss?

ZACH
Wow, no. I had no idea.

Mac pauses in offense at this and walks up to him with less of a strut. Zach pulls out a FLOWER.

ZACH (CONT'D)
I got you this.

She stops cold and stares at him.

MAC
What's that for?

ZACH
I thought you'd show up in ... coveralls.

MAC
A flower is supposed to turn my head?
Is that it?

ZACH
No, I just wanted you to look nice.
(realizing his mistake)
So they'd see you like I do.

MAC
Bosses are all alike.
(she walks away)
The hell with you and your meet..
Whatever it is.

Mac walks like a mechanic back to her car. A disappointed Zach turns and walks into the meeting, pinning the flower to this jacket while struggling to get the hurt off his face.

Mac leans against her car. Her PHONE rings. She answers it.

MAC (CONT'D)

Captain, I told you. I don't want anything to do with thst suit.

Three people walk in front of Mac, GERALD PAINTER, a well dressed man in his fifties, SHARON PAINTER, a glamorous looking woman in her twenties, and another well dressed man. They stop for a moment to listen to Gerald.

GERALD PAINTER

...Right with him til the straightaway and he just takes off.. I just can't stay with him.

MAC

(listening to Gerald)

Okay. I get it. But that's not me. You can take your lousy courtroom and... well... I'm sure you can guess the rest. Sir.

She disconnects and shoves the phone in her pocket and intently listens to the three. Paul Williams slows and turns to Gerald Painter

PAUL WILLIAMS

I've tried every trick I know, man.

GERALD PAINTER

I'm tired of this shi...
(looks at disapproving Sharon)

Ever since Tej ponied up to get tuned at that high dollar place.. That, what's it called? "Italian motor sports"...he just kicks our ass.

Paul notices Mac, looks her over.

SHARON PAINTER

Come on.. He's not beating you that bad. Honey, you know we don't have the moolah for that boutique!

Paul and Mac's eyes meet and Mac starts to speak but Paul turns back to Gerald.

GERALD PAINTER

Yeah, but we can always afford to
send you to yours!

Sharon is about to light into Gerald when Mac interrupts.

MAC

Guys, hey, you talking about Tej
Rajanapool?

PAUL WILLIAMS

Yeah, you know him?

Mac hurries to catch up with the group.

MAC

Lime Green Charger?

GERALD PAINTER

That's the one.

MAC

It's not just the horses that's
killing you.

GERALD PAINTER

How do you know that?

MAC

I did that car.

SHARON PAINTER

You, honey? I doubt it.

Mac glares at her as Sharon turns, away dismissing her.

MAC

Bring it in to Frank's and I'll put
you back in the race.

PAUL WILLIAMS

Frank Johnson's old place?

Mac nods and eyes Sharon's swishy walk.

PAUL WILLIAMS (CONT'D)

He don't work on racers any more.
Hell, he's dead!!!

Mac turns the strut back on.

MAC

His son, Zach is running it now.

PAUL WILLIAMS
I heard. Who are you?

Paul watches Mac, looking her over.

MAC
I work for Zach now. I did Tej's
car at Imoto.

Mac joins the group as they enter the meetup.

53 INT. MEETUP - CONTINUOUS

53

Zach stands by himself holding a stack of BUSINESS CARDS as Mac and the racers enter. He sees her talking animatedly with the group and ambles up tentatively. Mac see him, takes the stack of cards from Zach and hands them out to the racers.

MAC
(to Gerald)
So that's the deal, eight hundred
dollars plus parts and another eight
hundred if you win this weekend.
(looking at Gerald)
And you better win.

Zach looks worried as 2 other men walk up. Gerald introduce her to them and she hands them cards, too. PAUL WILLIAMS singles out Zach.

PAUL WILLIAMS
Hey Johnson, how are things at the
shop?

ZACH
Doing okay.

PAUL WILLIAMS
Heard about Terry and the cash
discounts.

Zach squirms.

PAUL WILLIAMS (CONT'D)
That shit happens. To everybody.
(gesturing at MAC)
Is she as good as she says?

ZACH
Yeah, I think she is.

54 INT. BANKER'S OFFICE - DAY

54

Jerry counts money as Zach watches.

JERRY

Three thousand four hundred dollars?.
Not bad. Not bad for a couple of
days.

(he waives a cashier
receipt for the
payment)

Examiners just need to see progress
to stick you in the good bucket.
Ought to get you another week, anyway.

ZACH

Thanks

JERRY

Don't thank me yet. Its not a sure
thing. Even then, I've still got to
have the eight grand by the end of
the month.

ZACH

Got it.

JERRY

Good move, getting back into racing.
Your dad's name should bring 'em in.

ZACH

Yeah. And we've got a hot mechanic.

JERRY

I heard.

(leers at Mac)

Keep on trucking Zach. You are a
fighter like your dad. We'll get
you back on track.

Zach reacts with a grimace, Jerry looks at him curiously.

55 INT. SHOP OFFICE - AFTERNOON

55

Zach returns from the bank. He walks to the open office
door, turns to go in and freezes. ANITA, a punk looking
teenage girl in shorts and a t-shirt is snooping around the
office. She looks behind furniture, checking the flooring
and walls. Then she pulls out the drawers and holds them up
to see their undersides. Derrick walks up behind Zach.

DERRICK

It's OK boss

Anita pulls out Zachs bag of dirty handkerchiefs and looks
around

ANITA

EwwwwH!

Anita makes a face.

ANITA (CONT'D)

Really?

She drops to her knees, the sound of a velcro rip loudly fills the room. She reappears and drops a small LOCK BOX onto the desk. It has a keyed lock. She starts to reach into her bra, sees the audience and spins the chair around. She spins back around, a bit red faced and holding her lock picking tools. In a few seconds she has the lock open and off the box. She spins the box around to them to open and smiles proudly. Raphael moves next to her, proudly

DERRICK

Go ahead, open it.

ZACH

Open what? What is it?

DERRICK

I don't know, but whatever it is, Terry wanted it really bad.

ZACH

(looking from Derrick
to the box)

This is what he was after?

Zach opens the LOCK BOX. There is a LARGE AMOUNT OF CASH in the box. He looks around amazed.

ZACH (CONT'D)

And who's this?

RAPHAEL

My niece, Anita.

ZACH

Hi, Anita. Thank you very much for finding the money.

(nervous)

Where'd you learn to do that? Find stashes?

ANITA

My Dad. He does it for a living.

Zach looks nervously around the room.

ZACH

Oh.

RAPHAEL

Naw, man, he's a locksmith. But she's a genius. Last year old man Simpson died...left his wife with nothin'. Anita? She found a half million dollars squirreled around that house!

56 INT. SHOP OFFICE - MONDAY MORNING

56

Zach is counting money as MAC walks in.

MAC

(walking around desk
to stand next to him)
How's it looking?

ZACH

Counted it twice and its still not enough.

MAC

Close?

ZACH

But no cigar. Need another fifteen hundred bucks by five oclock.

MAC

(slapping STACK OF
CASH on the desk)
Maybe this will help. Gerald's car won last weekend. Sixteen hundred dollars.

Zach just looks at it.

MAC (CONT'D)

What's the matter,
(grins)
Never seen a cash sale before?

Zach grins, but hesitates as he adds the dirty money to the pile.

ZACH

That'll do it.

57 INT. MOM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

57

Zach enters the den where Olivia sits, reading.

OLIVIA

How'd things go at the bank?

ZACH
 Whatever Mac did to Gerald's car
 worked. He paid the bonus and we
 made the payment.

OLIVIA
 Congratulations. That's just
 wonderful.

ZACH
 Yeah, I just wish we'd gotten it
 some other way.

Olivia starts to say something but Zach gives his mother a
 quick "don't go there" look and continues through the room.

OLIVIA
 Joe..

ZACH (O.S.)
 Mom... you promised...

OLIVIA
 Ok, Zachary, then, Can we talk?

Zach walks back into the room.

ZACH
 What's up?

OLIVIA
 Yes. That's what I'd like to know.

ZACH
 What do you mean?

OLIVIA
 What happened between you and your
 dad?

ZACH
 Mom, I'm not going to talk about
 that.

Zach gets up, walks out.

OLIVIA
 Well, you can't keep avoiding it.

58 INT. SHOP GARAGE - MORNING

58

Mac is on a creeper working under a street racer. Zach walks
 in carrying a NEW CLICK TORQUE WRENCH WITH A BOW tied around
 it. Derrick and Raphael look at each other knowingly.
 Derrick pulls out a TWENTY...

RAPHAEL
I'm not taking that.

Zach puts the wrench on Mac's bench and walks off just as Mac rolls out from under the car on the CREEPER. She watches him walk away, then gets up to see what he left on the bench. She picks up the TORQUE WRENCH.

MAC
Shit.

She stomps to the office.

59 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

59

Zach sits at the desk entering supplier invoices into the computer. Mac enters with the TORQUE WRENCH and throws it onto the desk with a bang.

MAC
What is this?

ZACH
It's a torque wrench?

MAC
Don't get me presents. It won't get you anything!

ZACH
It's not a present. It's a tool.
You need it. The shop needs it.
Want me to take it back?

Mac glares at him.

MAC
No.
(looks at the tool)
Thanks.

Mac grabs the tool and walks out, when she's safely gone, Zach smiles.

60 INT. SHOP GARAGE - NIGHT

60

Mac is under the hood of a racer. Derrick and Raphael's stations are empty, they wipe down their tools. We hear the sound of the new torque wrench "clicking" when the correct force is applied.

DERRICK
Raphael, did you hear that?

RAPHAEL
That sounds like one of them fancy
clicky torque wrenches.

DERRICK
Always wanted me one of those.

MAC
(grinning from under
the hood)
Screw you!

RAPHAEL
(to Mac)
You going home?

MAC
(straightens up to
talk to the men)
Yeah. I'm done.

Derrick and Raphael put up the last tools and walk toward
the exit.

DERRICK
We're gettin' a beer at the VFW.
You comin'?

MAC
Maybe.

RAPHAEL
Suit yourself.

DERRICK
Raphie, anyone ever get you one of
those click wrenches?

RAPHAEL
No, man. I'm not that pretty.

Derrick and Raphael pass Zach on their way out.

ZACH
'night fellas.

DERRICK
'Night boss

RAPHAEL
'Night.

Mac still has her head under the hood of the car. Her PHONE
rings in her pocket.

MAC
 Shit. Leave me alone, will you?
 (pulls the phone out
 of her pocket)
 What?
 (pause)
 Yeah. Okay.
 (pause)

Zach stands in the doorway, listening.

MAC (CONT'D)
 I said no. There has to be somebody
 else.
 (pause)
 Don't put me in that position.
 (pause)
 I can't do it. She'll do okay with
 out me... you can't expect me to...
 (pause)
 Shit.

She disconnects the phone. Puts it back in her pocket.

ZACH
 Everything okay?

MAC
 Yeah. Peachy.

Her eyes well with tears. She slams the hood shut, throws
 the torque wrench, with the somewhat worn bow still on it,
 onto the bench and walks out. Zach follows her.

61 EXT. SHOP PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

61

Mac walks out the door, Zach follows, quickly locking the
 door behind him.

Mac sees him walking behind her as he hurries to catch up.

MAC
 What are you doing?

ZACH
 Walking.

Mac keeps walking. Tears going down her face. She swats at
 them.

MAC
 Do it someplace else.

ZACH
 Nope.

Mac walks faster, Zach keeps up, keeping pace just behind her. After a few moments, she stops. Wipes her face.

MAC
I'm okay. I don't need a baby sitter.

ZACH
(laughing)
I know that.

MAC
Then why are you here?

ZACH
You're hurtin' too much to be alone.

MAC
I'm fine.

ZACH
Well, you can't keep avoiding it.
(grimacing)
Shit!

MAC
What?

ZACH
Someone told me the same thing.
Man, I was pissed at her. I'm sorry.

Mac stands facing him in silence for a moment. She moves closer to him, studying his face.

ZACH (CONT'D)
What?

MAC
Just trying to figure out your game.

ZACH
Game?

MAC
Everybody has a game, boss.

Mac turns back around and walks back toward the shop with Zach hurrying to catch up. As he looks straight ahead, she turns her head to look at him. A smile crosses her face as she turns her head to look forward.

Mac and Gerald Painter stand in the back of the shop in an intense discussion about driving a track.

GERALD PAINTER

I can be ahead of him going into number five and by the time we line out of it he's even and what I just can't understand is he keeps pulling away.

Zach walks by

MAC

This is the only place it happens?

GERALD PAINTER

Only on that turn on that track. And Mac, the regional finals are this weekend and we gotta figure this out.

Zach turns back.

ZACH

Fifth turn at Devil's Knife?

GERALD PAINTER

Uhh, Yeah.

Gerald turns back to Mac.

ZACH

Kick the camber in on the outside rear tire and reduce the steering inclination to make up for it.

GERALD PAINTER

That doesn't make any sense.

MAC

Wait a second.

ZACH

That turn is almost off camber. You're gonna roll no matter how stiff the bar is. Use it.

MAC

Wow, that might work.
(staring at Zach)
How'd you know that?

ZACH

Don't try that on any other track. And it gets a bit touchy even there.
(walking away)
I always hated that place.

Zach walks back to the office.

MAC

Let's get to the track and do it.

63 INT. SHOP OFFICE - AFTERNOON

63

Zach enters invoices into the COMPUTER accounting software and makes notes on a NOTEPAD. Mac walks in grinning.

MAC

Worked like a charm Zach. At first we didn't shim it out enough and I thought what the hell and put in everything I had.

ZACH

(grinning)

Oh no!!

MAC

(laughing as she drops into a chair)

Yeah, well we didn't do too much damage. ... dialed it back and Gerald's totally pumped. He wants us there for the race.

ZACH

I can't.

MAC

Why not? Look this'll be great for business and it'll be fun.

ZACH

I'm busy. Got a meeting

MAC

What night is it?

ZACH

Is what?

MAC

The meeting, asshole.

ZACH

Tonight.

MAC

(standing up)

Good, then you are free cause the race's tomorrow. Pick you up around five.

Mac leaves. Zach looks like he's gonna' puke.

64 EXT. MAC'S CAR - AFTERNOON

64

Mac drives and Zach sits uncomfortably.

MAC

If you're worried about my driving,
I'll let you drive.

ZACH

No, I don't want to drive.

MAC

Good, 'cause nobody drives my car.

Zach can't stop a smile.

65 EXT. MAC'S CAR - RACE TRACK - LATER

65

Mac rolls down her window. The sound of cars screaming around the track.

MAC

God. I love that sound.

She looks over at Zach. He is pale as a sheet. She quickly stops the car.

MAC (CONT'D)

Hey... you okay?

Zach looks straight ahead, breathing shallow and quick, his right hand goes to his chest.

MAC (CONT'D)

Zach?

ZACH

I... I can't...

MAC

What?

ZACH

I... I think... I'm... heart..
Attack...

Mac puts a hand to Zach's forehead then presses a finger into his neck looking for his carotid pulse.

MAC

Nope. No heart attack. Jeez. You
coulda just said you didn't want to
come.

Zach turns to her, questioningly

ZACH
Call... 911... please...

Mac puts the car into gear, makes a rash U-turn and drives away from the track. She rolls her window back up. Zach's breath slowly returns to normal.

66 EXT. VFW BAR PARKING LOT - A FEW MINUTES LATER

66

Mac pulls her car into the parking lot.

MAC
We're here.

She gets out, goes around and opens the door for Zach, who has his head on his knees. He takes her arm and climbs out. He turns toward the door. Looks up, and stops short.

ZACH
This isn't the E.R.

MAC
(almost pulling Zach
out of the car)
The hell it's not.

67 INT. VFW BAR - CONTINUOUS

67

Mac pushes Zach through the door, gestures to the bar. He stumbles to the bar and sits. She sits next to him.

GLORIA, the bartender, a once attractive woman in her late sixties fills TWO SHOT GLASSES from a LIQUOR BOTTLE and slides one in front of Zach.

GLORIA
Start with this. If you keep that
down, I'll get you something stronger.

MAC
Thanks, Gloria.
(pause)
Zach, this is Gloria. Army nurse in
'Nam, now she tends to us. Gloria,
this is Zach. My boss.

Gloria puts her hand out and Zach automatically shakes it.

GLORIA
Nice to meet'ya boss.

Gloria limps as she moves down the bar to another customer. Zach smells the SHOT, then sucks it down. Makes a face.

ZACH
There's something stronger?

MAC
Good. Give it a minute.

ZACH
You come here a lot?

MAC
Sometimes. You know, when things
get...

Mac downs her shot.

ZACH
You had it rough over there?

MAC
It was okay. Not as bad as some.

ZACH
(looks at his shaking
hands)
Maybe I can get another one.

Mac gestures to Gloria. Gloria refills the glasses. Gloria
walks over to another customer. They down the shots together.

MAC
Maybe we should get something to
eat?

ZACH
They have food here?

MAC
Not really. Hey Gloria, can we get
a couple o' burgers?

GLORIA
It's your life.

68 INT. VFW BAR - LATER

68

Zach and Mac are at a table now, burgers are done, empty
beer bottles line the table.

MAC
Seriously? You didn't!

ZACH
Yep. That's how I got through Chef
school.

They sit in silence for a moment

ZACH (CONT'D)

What happened back there? I thought
I was dying.

MAC

Yeah. That's how it feels. First
your chest tightens and you can't
breathe. Then your heart tries to
pound right of your chest.

(pause)

Seen it worse. Hell, I've done it
worse. You did okay.

ZACH

Seen what worse? What was it?

MAC

Panic.

ZACH

Panic. I don't think so.

More silence.

MAC

Man, you shoulda seen your face.
You were white as a sheet. Wish I'd
had a camera.

ZACH

Funny.

MAC

(serious now)

No. I know how it feels.

(pause)

Gerald's gonna be pissed.

ZACH

He'll get over it.

MAC

Something about racing? Your dad?

(Zach gives a don't
go there look)

Oooh, its both!

ZACH

Let's get out of here.

They walk out together, Zach moves away when Mac tries to
get close.

69 XT. MAC'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

69

Zach gets to his door first and stands, watching Mac open her door. Just before she gets in their eyes meet. They freeze for a moment. Mac and Zach climb into the car simultaneously. Their heads almost touch as they twist into the seats. Zach pulls her head toward his and kisses her, passionately. Mac responds at first, then suddenly pushes him away, turns away from him, takes her key out.

ZACH

Sorry... I....

Mac puts the key in the ignition, then looks at him, and just as suddenly, pulls his head toward her and kisses him, then tries to pull his shirt out of his pants and shoves her hand under his shirt.

ZACH (CONT'D)

You got someplace we can go?

MAC

Why? Is your mom still up? I've always wanted to sneak...

She smiles as Zach starts to defend himself. She starts the engine.

MAC (CONT'D)

Oh well. Someone has to be the grownup.

ZACH

You're enjoying this too much

MAC

Not yet.

70 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - MORNING

70

Zach and Mac asleep in her bed. Mac wakes up first looks around and sees Zach is in her bed. The place is not dirty, but messy.

MAC

Shit.

She closes her eyes, pretends to be asleep as she thinks. Zach opens his eyes and looks around. He's sleeping against the wall, trapped. He checks to make sure she is sleeping. He hangs one leg over her as a counter-weight to help him press up so he's over her. Her eyes open but she doesn't move. Mac realizes he's leaving and quickly closes her eyes.

Zach cranes his head around to check that she's still asleep and slides far enough off the bed to take most of his weight on the free leg. He push-ups to a tripod and his other leg escapes, and he pushes himself back and off the bed. She opens one eye and watches him leave, lets out a sigh of relief and rolls in to his depression in the mattress.

71 INT. SHOP GARAGE - MORNING 71

Zach wears sunglasses as he pours himself a CUP of coffee from the COFFEE POT. He has his back to the door as Mac enters. She see's him, and quickly skirts along the wall to her bay, unnoticed. Zach walks to the office.

72 INT. SHOP GARAGE - LATER 72

Zach, still wearing the shades, pokes his head through the office door. Derrick and Raphael work over their respective cars. Mac is under hers.

ZACH

Hey you guys know where Mac is?

Derrick points to the car.

MAC

(from under the car)

Yeah, boss?

ZACH

Oh. Nothing. Just... didn't know...nevermind.

Derrick and Raphael exchange looks and shrug.

73 INT. SHOP GARAGE - LATER 73

Zach carries PARTS out of the office and puts them on Raphael's bench. Mac slides her CREEPER out enough to see what is going on. Zach looks at her and she slides back under the car as he quickly turns back to Raphael

ZACH

Here are the shocks and right ball joint...

(cross checks the parts with the list)

For that red truck.

RAPHAEL

Thanks boss.

Zach turns and walks away. Half way to the office he sees a delivery driver enter carrying a PARTS BOX. He signs for it and the driver walks away.

Zach looks at the packing slip, then at Mac's bay, takes a breath and walks over to Mac. He kneels down and peers under the car at Mac. He smiles when he sees her working before...

ZACH

Got the rack and pinion in for that Chevy.

MAC

Uhhh, yeah, just put'em on my bench.

ZACH

Hey, about last night. Thank you.

Uhh not for that I mean. Shit.

(takes a breath)

Thanks for understanding. Sounds like you've been there.

MAC

Yeah

ZACH

I never knew.

MAC

Yeah, well. That's not something I usually share. And Zach, I don't usually share my bed either. I'm not sure what happened last night. It was alright but...

ZACH

Just one night. I totally agree.

Zach starts to stand, but bends back down to see Mac.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Alright, really? Somehow I'd hoped..

MAC

It was better than alright. OK?

ZACH

Hey, There's a free concert downtown tomorrow night...maybe you'd want to go...

MAC

Really?

ZACH

As friends!

MAC

Hmmh. Yeah, okay.. As FRIENDS!

ZACH

Friends. I'll pick you up about seven?

Mac nods as she turns back to her work. When Zach stands she looks to see he is gone and smiles. Zach walks back to the office with a grin.

74 EXT. MOM'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

74

Zach drives them up to his mother's garage. They get out.

MAC

Its a beautiful night for a concert.

Dirt pours off the garage door as Zach opens it to get lawn chairs. A dusty PONTIAC GT sits covered in the garage. Olivia walks around the corner.

OLIVIA

Oh...ummm...Zach! What are you kids up to?

ZACH

There's a concert downtown.

OLIVIA

Oh, sounds fun.

(pointing)

Zach, the lawn chairs are in that corner under the camping stuff.

ZACH

Got it.

As Zach digs out the lawn chairs, Mac walks into the garage. She looks at the covered car, pulls a corner off...

MAC

Is this...

She pulls the cover further off..

OLIVIA

Yes, it is. This was mine.

MAC

Holly.... Shi... You drove this?

She pulls the cover mostly off the car and looks at Olivia.

MAC (CONT'D)

Jeez.

She looks at racing pictures of Zach's dad on the wall. She stops at one with Zach in it.

OLIVIA

We used to all go to the races.
Gosh, I loved those days. The
excitement, noise, feeling like a
family.

MAC

What happened?

Olivia's hands shake. She digs in her purse.

MAC (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to pry.

OLIVIA

Oh, no, its alright. I don't have
anything to hide

(looks at Zach)

At least I don't think I do.

(back to the photos
on the wall)

He used to love the races.

Mac looks at a picture of Olivia, Zach, his father, and Terry.
Olivia looks over her shoulder.

MAC

Is that Terry?

Olivia takes out a PILL BOTTLE, opens it, removes a PILL,
tosses it into her mouth and swallows it.

OLIVIA

Zach and his dad would be up all
hours working on the cars. Some
mornings I'd find them at the shop,
asleep on an old mattress. They
were so close.

Mac jolts when she hears this, looks for Zach.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

(turns to Mac)

Then it all changed. Zach was so
angry. He didn't want anything to do
with his dad. Never did find out
what happened. And now Frank is
gone and...

Mom tears up, turns away.

MAC

I'm sorry. Zach never talks about
any of that. I just wanted to know.

OLIVIA

Me too.

ZACH

(walks past them with
the CHAIRS)

Ready to go. See ya later Mom. Not
sure what time I'll be home.

OLIVIA

(painful smile)

That's alright honey. I won't wait
up.

Mac looks at Olivia, starts to say something, but changes her mind and joins Zach in the car as Olivia stands still and watches them drive off. She moves to close the garage door but stops and walks over to the car. She touches it lovingly and begins to pull the cover back on.

75 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

75

Mac leads Zach into her apartment after the concert.

ZACH

Those guys were amazing!

MAC

They were alright.

ZACH

There's that word again.

Mac puts her arms around him, and melts into him.

MAC

Maybe it was just the company?

ZACH

Could be.

Suddenly she startles with eyes open and straightens up. She keeps an arm around him.

MAC

I'm thirsty. Want something?

ZACH

Sure. Got some iced tea?

They disengage and walk toward the kitchen

MAC

Of course.

(MORE)

MAC (CONT'D)

(cracks a smile)

Left a pitcher to sun brew in Iraq
once and the next day there was
nothing but sand and a tea bag.

76 INT. MAC'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

76

The kitchen isn't dirty, but it has a BOTTLE OF OIL and
SPICES, a MESSY CUTTING BOARD, SUGAR BOWL and PAPER TOWELS
sitting out.

ZACH

Man, that's hot.

Zach gets TWO GLASSES out of the cabinet and turns to get
ICE from the freezer compartment. He waits as Mac pulls the
ICE TEA PITCHER from the refrigerator.

MAC

No, it was my jerk C.O.. That asshole
was always messing with me.

Zach opens the freezer and Mac palms ICE out of the drawer
and drops it into the glasses. She pours the iced tea as
Zach closes the freezer door. He sees dirt at the top of
the freezer door and reaches for the kitchen sponge and starts
cleaning the door. He finishes and takes a wad of paper
towels and dries the door. Mac stands speechless and watches.

ZACH

(reaching for the tea)

Oh, thanks.

He takes a drink and cleans a spot on the counter before
tossing the paper towels in the trash. Then he grabs the
used paper towel on the counter and tosses that. Then puts
his glass down, looks around and sees there isn't a spice
rack and opens a couple of cabinet doors and finds a likely
candidate to hold spices. Quickly he puts the oil and spices
away. Picks up the sugar bowl, decides it looks good enough
to leave out and puts it back on the counter against the
wall. He turns back to Mac, who stares at him with her arms
crossed.

MAC

What are you doing?

ZACH

Cleaning up.

MAC

In my kitchen? Maybe I like the way
it looks.

ZACH

Maybe this isn't the best time to suggest a spice rack?

Mac stares at him

ZACH (CONT'D)

But I bet its a great time for a shower?

MAC

(scrunching her nose)

Probably.

Zach gives her a quick kiss on the cheek as he passes her on the way to the shower.

Mac turns to watch him leave, then turns back to the counter. She pulls the sugar bowl back to the center of the counter. Changes her mind and puts it hanging off the edge. Then opens it and sprinkles sugar on the counter. Mac dumps her iced tea out and opens another cabinet and pulls out some scotch. She pours some into the iced tea glass and downs it. Another. She puts away the bottle and sets her glass in the sink. She starts away, but comes back to move the sugar bowl back to where Zach had put it. She walks, shaking her head toward the bedroom.

Mac leans against the bathroom door, listening to the sound of the shower.

77 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

77

Flashback from Mac's P.O.V. - Zach ripping off his shirt, reaching for her.

78 INT. MAC'S BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

78

Zach showers, facing the faucet. Mac slips in behind him and throws an arm over his shoulder and lays her head on his back as she wraps her other arm around his waist. Zach's eyes widen, he tries to calm himself. Mac's hand drifts down. Zach freezes. Mac stops and lifts her head, surprised. Zach suddenly shakes himself free of the arm around his waist and shoves her away with his elbow. She slips and falls against the shower curtain. The shower curtain gives way and she falls over the edge of the tub as Zach grabs for her. He slows her fall to a gentle bump and loses his balance. He tumbles after her smashing his forehead into the cabinet. Bruised and bleeding, he untangles himself pulling the shower curtain over his naked lower half, cowers in the corner of the bathroom.

ZACH

NO!!

MAC

Are you OK?

ZACH

GET AWAY FROM ME!

Mac grabs her robe and backs as far as the open doorway. Zach cowers in the corner, trembling.

ZACH (CONT'D)

(with a child like
voice)

I'm sorry Daddy, I didn't mean to...

Mac listens, closes her eyes and trembles. She takes a deep breath, makes a decision and shakes her head with resolve, No.

79 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

79

Zach has a bandage on his forehead as he finishes dressing and walks to the door. Mac stands by the door in her robe. Zach moves toward her. Her cold expression never changes as he walks out the door and she shuts it behind him. She takes a breath, relaxes and heads to the kitchen with a limp and stiff back.

80 INT. MAC'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

80

Mac opens the liquor cabinet and sets the BOTTLE OF SCOTCH on the counter. She lifts the glass out of the sink but puts it back and gets a SHOT GLASS from the cabinet. She fills and downs the shot glass. She grimaces from her bruised back, fills it again and shuffles out of the kitchen.

81 INT. SHOP GARAGE - MORNING

81

Derrick and Raphael look over their WORK SHEETS for the day when Mac walks in. She is not walking much better than last night. She comes up to the two men and winces as she reaches for her CLIPBOARD.

DERRICK

You look better than he does.

Mac looks at him quizzically.

MAC

What?

Derrick gestures towards the office.

DERRICK

Boss man don't look so good.
(MORE)

DERRICK (CONT'D)
 (risking all for a
 laugh)
 You musta had some kind o' fun.

Mac glares at him as Raphael moves to hide the BREAKER BAR.
 Mac shuffles off suppressing a laugh.

MAC
 Oooh that hurts.

82 INT. SHOP GARAGE - LATER

82

Zach enters the shop with the bandage still on his forehead and carrying a shopping bag. He looks around to see if he's been spotted as he sneaks it into the office and quickly reappears. He walks past Raphael who grins at him on his way to find Mac. He stops at her station. Pauses, takes a breath, winces, and ...

ZACH
 (softly)
 Mac, can you come into my office for
 a moment. Please.

MAC
 (looking up)
 Sure. Give me just a minute.. Boss.

Zach cringes at being called boss and his shoulders drop as he walks back to the office.

83 INT. SHOP OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

83

Zach sits at his desk and stares at the wall. Mac shuffles in.

MAC
 (tenderly)
 What is it?

Zach looks up and sees her shuffling. He jumps up

ZACH
 You're hurt!

Mac waves him back, as Zach winces.

MAC
 I've been beat up by worse than you.

Zach stops and despair fills his face.

MAC (CONT'D)
 Kidding! I'll be fine. You know,
 you don't look that great either.

Zach goes back around the desk and pulls a BOX out of the SHOPPING BAG.

MAC (CONT'D)
 Raphael and Derrick are having fun
 with our.. Injuries.

ZACH
 (smiling for the first
 time)
 I bet.

Mac freezes when she sees the box.

MAC
 What is that?

ZACH
 A pres.. No. It's a .. bird nest on
 the ground.

MAC
 What?

ZACH
 One of our customers couldn't pay
 their bill and I HAD to take this
 instead.

He offers the box and Mac takes the box. She opens it and her eyes light up. She pulls the DRESS out of the box.

MAC
 And it "just happens" to be in my
 size?
 (lifting the tag)
 With the tag still on it?

She looks in the box.

MAC (CONT'D)
 And a receipt with today's date.
 (seeing the price)
 Zach! I can't take this! What are
 you doing?
 (pause)
 You can't just ...just...buy me.

She walks toward the door. Zach follows her

ZACH

That's not what.... I'm not...
 (softer)
 Just look at it... it... it matches
 your eyes...
 (pleading)
 I want to see you in it. Please,
 for m..

Mac glares at him. Gets up and closes the door and closes the blinds, but it hurts and she winces. With the door closed she turns and shuffles back to the present. She looks at it, then at Zach

MAC

Is this what you want?

She starts to take off her work clothes.

ZACH

No...God! No...it's not about...
 (pause)
 Tonight, dinner?

He walks up to her, looks at the TAG.

ZACH (CONT'D)

I'll probably have to borrow money
 from my mother, but we'll go someplace
 nice.

He looks into her eyes. Her face softens.

MAC

Don't be a jerk. Take the dress back.

Zach looks hurt, looks at her curiously.

MAC (CONT'D)

What do you want, Zach?

ZACH

(tearing)
 I'm sorry.... I don't know what
 happened. I... let me make it up to
 you.

MAC

Hmph... then... Take me dancing. To
 Henry's. Though you might have to
 carry me.

They smile at each other and reach for each others hands.

84 INT. HENRY'S BAR - NIGHT

84

Mac and Zach dance apart as the song ends. The next song begins, a slow one. Zach reaches for Mac.

MAC

I don't know any slow steps and I
don't want to just stumble around
so you can grope me.

ZACH

Just follow my lead.

MAC

Zach!

Zach reaches around and grabs the back of her dress. He moves her around effortlessly as they move together with the flow of the song. At first Mac is stiff but begins to move more freely as Zach moves them around. The song ends and Zach lets go of Mac.

MAC (CONT'D)

Wow. How'd you do that.

ZACH

I just let you dance and moved you
around.

MAC

Yeah, but how.

ZACH

It's a secret.

They return to their chairs. Mac's PURSE and Zach's PHONE are on the table.

ZACH (CONT'D)

You don't seem too slowed down by
our... Wreck... last night.

MAC

Better living through chemistry. A
few pain pills and a couple of these
(she takes a drink
from her GLASS)
And I'm... fine.

ZACH

I'm sorry.

MAC

Yeah.

ZACH
 Hope you can still work in the
 morning. I hear your boss is a real
 hard ass.

Mac looks annoyed.

MAC
 No shit, Sherlock!

Zach reacts to the unexpected hostility. A waiter walks by
 with a platter of orders. Zach looks the food over, stares
 for a moment.

MAC (CONT'D)
 Earth to Zach.

ZACH
 Sorry. I figured I'd have my own
 restaurant by now. Not running that
 damn shop. Like him.
 (pause)
 Anything but there.

Mac watches him.

ZACH (CONT'D)
 I've got to hit the head.

Zach walks off. Mac looks around, looking relaxed, happy.
 She stretches her back as a message comes in on Zach's PHONE.

"Hey sexy Missed you at brkfst"

Mac grabs his PHONE and opens it to see a series of messages
 from Kristen. She is still reading when Zach returns with a
 big smile.

ZACH (CONT'D)
 (digging out his wallet)
 You 'bout ready to go?

MAC
 Who is Kristen?

Zach is blind-sided

ZACH
 Who? Kristen?

MAC
 (looks at the phone)
 Kristen ... Webster. She's been
 sending you all this romantic...

ZACH

Noooh!

Mac reads another message, then turns to Zach.

MAC

Now this one's downright slutty.

Zach puts down his wallet and grabs her by the shoulders. He sees her tense and raise out of her chair but hangs on to her.

ZACH

Nobody. She's... just a girl I used to know that won't leave me alone.

MAC

Is that why she "misses your body at night and breakfasts in the morning".

ZACH

I never stay 'til breakfast!

This visibly upsets Mac even more. They glare at each other and Zach storms off.

Mac looks around at all the people staring and slumps back into her chair. The waiter meekly brings her the check. She reaches for Zach's wallet and pulls out his CASH. She looks at the CHECK and puts all the money on the PLATE. A painful grin and she picks the money up and counts them out. She pauses to figure the tip and finishes paying the bill. She stuffs the money back into the wallet and something falls out. She reaches to pick it up without looking at it and starts to stuff it back into the wallet. She stops, pulls it out and tears well in her eyes. She digs in her purse and pulls out the rest of the ZACHS TORN PHOTO from 22 years ago and puts them back together.

MAC

Oh No!

She turns to look for Zach and he is standing there, watching her.

MAC (CONT'D)

I know who you are!

Zach just stares at her for a moment.

ZACH

(grabs his wallet out
of her hand)

What are you doing with my wallet?

He angrily picks up the bill

MAC
I already paid it.

ZACH
(counting the money
Mac left)
With MY money.

Waits impatiently for Zach to finish.

MAC
Zach. Look.

She hands him SARAS TORN PHOTO. He yanks the photo from her hand. Looks at it for a moment.

ZACH
You got this out of my wallet?
Snooping through my ph..
(suddenly realizes
its SARAS TORN PHOTO)
Wait a minute. This is...
(looks at her)

MAC
...the other half...

She matches the pieces of photos together.

ZACH
How...

MAC
I'm...I'm... Sara. Or... I used to
be.

Realization dawns on him. He sits silent. They stare at each other.

ZACH
So.....what?

MAC
So. JOE. Nothing. YOU stopped
writing!

She gets up and walks out crying. Zach watches her go, unsure what to do. He looks around and spots an older couple watching him. They point at the door and mouth "go".

85 EXT. HENRY'S BAR PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

85

Mac hides behind hedges close to the bar. Zach emerges from the bar and looks around. He walks to his car and leans back against the it and stares into the dark sky. His phone buzzes a text message in. He reads it

MAC: Why id u keep the pics if it dont mean nything?

MAC: You are so stupid. We are friends.

MAC: FUCK YOU!

Zach grins and punches a two letter response and looks around for where she's hiding. He heads confidently toward some tall shrubs...

86 EXT. HENRY'S BAR PARKING LOT MAC'S HIDING SPOT - CONTINUOUS

86

Mac sits slouched and holding her phone. Her head is on her knees. She bangs her head on her knees as her phone buzzes.

ZACH: OK

A painful, involuntary smile

Zach appears in her hiding spot

ZACH

Hi ... I knew you'd be here.

She laughs and starts to wipe her nose on her arm. Zach sticks his arm in her way.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Here.

She uses his arm to wipe her nose. Grins mischievously and then blows her nose on his sleeve.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Oh God.

He repulsively removes his shirt.

ZACH (CONT'D)

Here, keep it.

She takes it and stares at his chest.

MAC

Uuhhm! That's better.

He grins and sits down next to her. She puts her head on his shoulder.

ZACH
I don't get it. Why does payroll
have you as Michelle MacDonald?

MAC
Sara's my middle name.

Zach relaxes against her.

MAC (CONT'D)
"Zach" is sexier than Joe.
(pause)
It makes sense now.

ZACH
What?

MAC
The shower.
(looks at him)
It was your Dad.

Zach looks at the ground.

MAC (CONT'D)
What do we do now?

ZACH
You had a pretty good idea earlier.

Mac grins.

MAC
No.. But
(a smile crosses her
face)
Yes
(looks at Zach)
But later.

ZACH
Yeah, later.

He pulls her in tighter and they both stare into space.
Lost and happy and not sure what to do next.

ZACH (CONT'D)
(pain in his voice)
Where have you been?

87 EXT. HENRY'S BAR PARKING LOT MAC'S HIDING SPOT - MORNING

87

Sunlight works its way into their hiding spot as they sleep.
The sound of a garbage truck compressing its load in the
parking lot.

Reluctantly their eyes open and they both take a quick look at the other, just to make sure.

ZACH

I guess... We ought to go someplace else.

Mac nods and they slowly disentangle and stand. Mac stoops to pick up ZACH'S SHIRT. She offers it to him and he quickly draws back and shakes his head no.

MAC

You're such a boy.

88 EXT. ZACH'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

88

Zach, no shirt pulls into Mac's parking lot. He watches her as she gets out. She starts to close the door and realizes he's still sitting there. She leans down to see him.

MAC

You're coming in?

He looks at her blankly.

MAC (CONT'D)

You Are Coming In!

He stares for a moment and nervously gets out and joins her on the sidewalk and she leads him to her apartment.

89 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

89

Zach, still shirtless, follows Mac in the door. She puts her PURSE down and turns to him, pulling him close.

MAC

Come on, let's get cleaned up and make some breakfast.

Mac heads to the bedroom as Zach follows.

90 INT. MAC'S BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

90

Zach is in the shower facing the nozzle as Mac steps in behind him and puts a hand on his shoulder. They both freeze.

MAC

He did that. You're Dad. Frank. Didn't he?

She starts to step back out. Zach reaches back with his arm, searching for her. He touches her and slowly twists to face her

ZACH

No. Don't.

They make silent eye contact. Zach turns back to the faucet and Mac moves closer.

MAC

Here, how's this?

She rubs her breasts on his back. Zach relaxes, his head rolls back and he eases back.

ZACH

Ahhhh.

Mac grins

MAC

That's better. Is this OK?

She puts an arm over his shoulder. He pushes gently back in to her and she puts an arm around his waist.

MAC (CONT'D)

How's that?

ZACH

I like tits.

MAC

(pushes her face up
against his back)

Yeah. You meant to say you like my
tits.

ZACH

Uuhhh Huhhh.

Mac moves her hand down to his crotch and begins to fondle him. Then stops suddenly and raises her head up.

MAC

Oh, I'm sorry Zach. You OK?

ZACH

Oh God, yes. Just like that.

Mac presses her head back down.

MAC

Me too. Thank you.

ZACH

Thank you? For what?

Mac smiles, hugs him closer

MAC
For not destroying another shower
curtain.

91 INT. SHOP GARAGE - DAY

91

Mac is under the hood of a car. Derrick and Raphael work on cars in their bays as well. Zach comes in behind Mac carrying a SHOPPING BAG. He puts his arms around her and kisses her cheek. Mac looks at the bag suspiciously.

MAC
What's that?

ZACH
Oh, nothing. Just something for
work.

MAC
I told you...

He puts his finger to her mouth.

ZACH
It's no big deal.

Zach leaves the bag on her workbench and exits. Mac looks at the bag, then goes back to work. She keeps looking back at the bag.

DERRICK
It's not gonna bite.

MAC
HA HA. Very funny. I'm curious.
That's all.

RAPHAEL
Me too. Now open it girl.

Mac closes the hood of the car, wipes at her hands with a grease cloth, starts to open the SHOPPING BAG, stops herself, and gets a CLEANSER squirts it on her hands and scrubs them clean with the GREASE CLOTH before opening the SHOPPING BAG. She opens the bag and pulls out a new STYLISH WOMEN'S COVERALL with her name embroidered on it. She pulls it out and places it in front of her.

RAPHAEL (CONT'D)
Maaan! He likes you more than me!

Mac's PHONE rings. She looks at it before picking it up.

MAC

What now?

MS. ELLORY (V.O.)

We are going to court.

MAC

So?

Mac inspect the coveralls.

MS. ELLORY (V.O.)

We need you, Sara. We have to have your testimony. Her case just isn't strong enough without you.

MAC

Look, it's just an "occupational hazard." Like IEDs.

Derrick stops what he's doing and looks at her.

MS. ELLORY (V.O.)

(sighing)

I know that's what they told you, Sara. But they're wrong and you can put a stop to it!

MAC

I said 'No!!!'

Mac slams the phone on her bench. She looks at the coveralls, starts to smile and angrily shoves them back in the bag.

DERRICK

You okay? ... Mac?

Mac grabs a tool and goes back to the car she is working on.

92 INT. SHOP GARAGE - LATER

92

Mac working on another car. Zach walks by carrying a CLIPBOARD with an ESTIMATE REQUEST, places it on her workbench. He looks at the disarray.

ZACH

What the... We've got jobs backing up. How can you work like this?

Zach starts putting TOOLS back in their place. Mac rolls out from under the car, jumps up, grabs a tool from him.

MAC

LEAVE IT!!!

ZACH
What's your problem?

MAC
You! First you try to give me
some...some... thing... and now you
have the nerve to tell me how to
work? What's next? Huh? Gonna
order me to to ...

Mac's face is full of rage. Zach eases back.

ZACH
Ok, Sorry. I...

He reaches for her awkwardly... thinks better of it. Mac
starts to say something but sees that Zach is backing off.
She looks at him benignly and goes back under the car hood.

93 INT. SHOP OFFICE - EVENING

93

Zach turns off the lights, opens the outer door and locks it
as he pulls it closed behind him.

94 EXT. SHOP PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

94

Derrick and Mac stand talking next to their cars. They hear
Zach close the door and they quickly separate and go to their
car doors. Zach walks quickly to Mac touches her back as she
starts to get in.

ZACH
Hey.

Mac pulls away from him. Derrick stands with his car door
open and watches the exchange. As Raphael drives out of the
parking lot.

ZACH (CONT'D)
What's up with you?

Mac looks at him.

MAC
I think... we... just need to cool
it for now. Okay? I can't handle
this... You... "Joe"... I... just...
it's too much!

She climbs into her car, closes the door and drives off.
Zach stands staring at her as she drives away.

95 EXT. MAC'S APARTMENT - MORNING

95

Zach carries a CLOTH SHOPPING BAG and TWO COFFEES and knocks on the door. Waits. Knocks again.

MAC (O.S.)

Yeah. Yeah. I'm comin'!

The door opens part way. Zach pushes it the rest of the way open and lets himself in. Mac, barely surviving her hangover, stands staring at him.

ZACH

You need a real breakfast.

96 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

96

Zach sets the CLOTH SHOPPING BAG and TWO COFFEES on the counter. He sets EGGS, BACON, TORTILLAS, GREEN ONIONS, CHILIS, SPICES, CAST IRON GRIDDLE, CHEFS KNIFE, and EGG PAN on the counter and stove.

MAC

(leaning against the wall)

What the hell are you doing?

ZACH

Fixing you a real breakfast.

Zach looks around the kitchen for a skillet. Finds one, makes a face and takes it to the sink to clean it.

MAC

That pan is clean! ... Enough.

Zach looks doubtful.

MAC (CONT'D)

I told you...

ZACH

Yeah? Well... I didn't agree. So here I am.

He puts one of the cups of coffee in her hand and turns back to the stove.

97 INT. MAC'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

97

Zach sits at the table starting on the breakfast. Mac still leans against the wall, nursing the coffee.

ZACH
 Suit yourself. It's getting cold...
 not so great when it's cold.

MAC
 What do you think you are doing?

ZACH
 Making you breakfast.

Zach stops before he bites into his taco. He looks at Mac
 and twists in his seat to face her.

ZACH (CONT'D)
 I didn't want to eat breakfast without
 you.

MAC
 Breakfast?

Mac stares at Zach, not moving. Zach takes his bite of taco
 and looks back as he chews. He finishes the bite quickly.

ZACH
 What?

MAC
 Do you have any idea how hard it
 is...
 (she gestures at the
 breakfast)
 ...not smashing that plate over your
 head.

ZACH
 What the hell? Mac, its breakfast.

MAC
 No. No its not, Joey Boy. Its you
 taking over my house. Buying me
 shit. Trying..telling me what to do.

Zach finishes his bite. Looks up at her.

ZACH
 (softly)
 Sorry... Joey Boy! Really!

He puts down his fork, walks over to her, throws his arms
 around her and picks her up as he passionately kisses her
 and carries her to the sofa

MAC
 (frantically pushes
 him away)
 Please, CAPTAIN! No!

As he puts her down, her face goes expressionless.

98 INT. MILITARY STYLE TENT - DAY 98

CAPTAIN TAYLOR looms over her as she lays on a cot. His face full of rage, ripping at her clothes.

99 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS 99

Tears fall from Mac's eyes, she shakes as she barely gets out the words...

MAC
 Please... Dont.. Hurt me...

He drops to his knees beside her.

ZACH
 Mac. Sara.

She blinks at him.

ZACH (CONT'D)
 Sara. It's me. Zach. Joe. I'm not going to hurt you. It's me. Look. At. Me.

Mac takes in a deep breath. Tears fall from her eyes.

ZACH (CONT'D)
 I'm... sorry... My God, they did this to you? In the army?

Mac wipes her face, quickly sits up, turns away from him.

MAC
 MARINES! And you can leave now.

Zach stays put. He gets up, takes her hands.

ZACH
 Look. What happened to you.. You've got to face this.

MAC
 Says who? You? What the hell have you faced, Zach?

Zach drops one hand.

MAC (CONT'D)

Well?

ZACH

We're not talking about me.

MAC

I'll talk about what I want to talk about.

Zach looks at the floor, then back up at Mac.

ZACH

What am I supposed to do, my dad's dead. Gone.

(pause)

There's no one to... nothing to...

MAC

(softly)

There's your mom.

ZACH

She doesn't have anything to do with it.

MAC

She was there, too, you know?

ZACH

So?

MAC

Zach, you've left her completely in the dark. She has no idea what he did. And you just pretend everything's fine.

(looking away)

Like me.

(turning back to Zach)

You have no room to talk.

She opens the door for him.

MAC (CONT'D)

Come back when you've got something else to tell me.

Zach walks slowly out the door, just as he crosses the threshold he turns to look back at her.

100 EXT. MOM'S HOUSE - DAY

100

Zach pulls into his mother's driveway, turns off his engine, pulls his KEYS out of the ignition, doesn't move.

He stares at the front door. He puts them back into the ignition as Elaine pulls into the driveway behind him. Elaine gets out of her car, closes the door, looks at Zach in his car.

ELAINE

Zach?

He see's her in his rear view window. Sighs, gets out, closes his door.

ELAINE (CONT'D)

You here to take your mom to the store? GOOD!

Olivia opens the front door, see's Zach and Elaine.

ELAINE (CONT'D)

My schedule is really tight this morning. My grand baby's...

ZACH

No... I was jus...

ELAINE

...birthday party is this afternoon and I...

OLIVIA

Morning you two!

ELAINE

So glad Zach can take you to the store this morning. I am totally swamped.

Elaine gives Zach a kiss on the cheek.

ELAINE (CONT'D)

Thank you dear.

Elaine drives off with Olivia & Zach staring after her.

ZACH

Mom

(pause)

Can we... I need too...

Zach looks back at the garage where his mom's old GT is parked. He goes to the garage and pulls the door open.

OLIVIA

Oh. That' won't run.

Zach looks at the car.

ZACH
Why did you stop...

Olivia turns and practically runs into the house.

101 INT. MOM'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

101

Olivia hurries quickly to the table, sets her PURSE down. She drops into the chair and struggles to catch her breath and get something from her purse.

ZACH
Mom?
(she doesn't answer)
Mom!

Zach grabs his Mom's purse, digs through it, finds a PILL BOTTLE, pulls it out. He pours a pill out and starts toward the sink, but Olivia is waving her hand madly. He puts the pill in her hand and she shoves it into her mouth as Zach goes quickly to the sink, grabs a GLASS and fills it with water. He hands the glass to Olivia.

ZACH (CONT'D)
Here.

Olivia drinks.

ZACH (CONT'D)
Why are you so afraid of driving?
You used to race for God's sake!

Olivia stares and tries to speak, but can't get the words out.

ZACH (CONT'D)
I know why I want nothing to do with racing, but you? You, what's your reason.

Panic on Olivia's face, she stands.

ZACH (CONT'D)
Did you...
(looks at her intently)
... Did you... did you...know?

Olivia's hands tremble as she sets the glass on the table. Tears well in her eyes as she nods her head.

OLIVIA
I drove into the shop after a really great practice lap ... and they...they were... on that mattress...

ZACH
 (confused)
 Who?

OLIVIA
 Your dad

Olivia looks at Zach.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)
 And Terry.

ZACH
 No. Mom. Me! Me!

OLIVIA
 Oh. God, no! I thought... he loved
 you... he would never...

ZACH
 But he did. He did.

OLIVIA
 No! NO! I'm just like my mother!

Olivia reaches for the bottle, pours the entire contents
 into her hand. Zach grabs her hand.

ZACH
 No. Mom. Don't you think I've
 thought of that? Don't you think
 I've wanted to give up?

OLIVIA
 But I... I let...

ZACH
 No. No. It was him. It wasn't
 you. It wasn't me. I
 (pause)
 ...Blamed myself... then you... but...
 it wasn't us. It was that bastard!

OLIVIA
 Yes. Yes, that's true.
 (laughs tearfully)
 But that's not all he was Joe..
 Zach...
 (pause)
 Remember when you "borrowed" that go
 cart from the shop?... Then crashed
 it!

ZACH

I thought he was going to wring my neck. I was scared to death.

OLIVIA

But Frank didn't. He helped you rebuild it and build a better one for yourself. Then taught you how to drive it.

Zach laughs at the memory. Then stops, looks at his mom.

ZACH

It was awful mom.

Zach gets down on his knees in front of her. Puts his head on her lap like a child.

OLIVIA

It WAS awful, and great. That's what makes me feel so...

(looks at the pills)

But maybe it's time we both stopped hating him.

(pause)

It's killing us both.

(pause)

You have a lot to live for now.

Zach lifts his head. Looks at her.

ZACH

Yeah. I do.

(pause)

But so do you, Mom. You don't have to spend the rest of your life dying.

OLIVIA

(trying to smile as she pours the pills back in the bottle)

Maybe not.

102 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

102

Mac sits on her couch looking at PHOTOS OF HER UNIT. Her hands shake as she picks one of them up. She looks at it. There is a knock on the door.

MAC

Come in.

Zach opens the door. He stands silently in the doorway. Mac looks up at his strained face.

MAC (CONT'D)

You did it?

Zach nods.

MAC (CONT'D)

Jesus.

Mac gets up, puts her arms around him. Then takes him by the hand and sets him on the sofa where she was sitting.

MAC (CONT'D)

How'd she take it?

Zach shrugs.

ZACH

I should have told her a long time ago.

(pause)

Mac... it wasn't just me.

MAC

Usually isn't.

ZACH

Terry. He... got to him, too.

MAC

Terry? The pictures in the garage. I should'a known.

(figuring it out)

Ohhh, crap, that's how he took over the shop.

ZACH

Yeah, I guess.

Mac stands, takes his hands.

MAC

You jerk.

ZACH

(confused)

What did I...

MAC

Now I can't go back on my promise. Now its my turn.

ZACH

You don't have to, Mac.

MAC

I promised you.

Mac picks up a photo from the table in front of them.

MAC (CONT'D)

That's him.

(pause)

I'm not afraid of him any more.

There eyes meet and smiles break out on their faces.

103 EXT. ROAD TO RACE TRACK - NIGHT 103

Dark night with headlights approaching. The car is driven aggressively. As the car gets closer enough to see the driver the car powers through a tight turn with Olivia at the wheel of her Pontiac.

104 EXT. RACE TRACK PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS 104

Olivia pulls up near the pits and gets out. She stands and looks toward the track. The engines roar. She smiles and walks confidently toward the crowd.

TRACK FAN (O.S.)

Olivia? Olivia Johnson!

Olivia makes eye contact, heads toward the old friend and waves.

105 INT. MAC'S APARTMENT - MORNING 105

Zach and Mac asleep in her bed. Mac wakes up first looks around and she closes her eyes. Zach opens his eyes and looks around. Zach grimaces. He's sleeping against a wall. He looks around, trapped, checks to make sure she is sleeping. He hangs one leg over her as a counter-weight to help him press up so he's over her. Her eyes open but she doesn't move. He slides one leg off the bed. Mac realizes he's leaving and quickly throws her arms around him and he falls on top of her. Their eyes lock. They laugh.

ZACH

Don't worry. I'm not going anywhere.
I promise. But I gotta pee.

MAC

You'd better not go anywhere 'cause
I want pancakes.