

Odyssey

By

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FADE INTO A QUOTE WRITTEN IN SPECTACULAR LETTERING THAT RUSHES TOWARD THE SCREEN AGAINST A BACKGROUND FILLED WITH THE TYPE OF LIGHTING AND SMOKE THAT ARE TYPICALLY USED IN ROCK CONCERTS. THE SOUND OF THE SCREAMING CROWD AT A ROCK CONCERT CAN BE HEARD AT THE SAME TIME.

"Rock and roll is a nuclear blast of reality in a mundane world where no-one is allowed to be magnificent."

-Kim Fowley

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - OUTSIDE OF THE ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE KODAK THEATER IN LOS ANGELES

As the opening titles also rush in and suddenly transition to the outside of the 77th Academy Awards ceremony at the Kodak Theater in Los Angeles, the street in front of the theater is cordoned off as the usual stream of celebrities going to after-parties is momentarily held up because Hollywood's brightest are joining those already outside for an explosive rendition of Rick Deringer's "Rock and Roll Hootchie Coo" during an unplanned street concert by the hottest band in music - the phenomenon that is none other than Chris Lane, Dina McClary, Gregory Turner and Simon Prince; the one - the only - "Odyssey!" A few minutes later, after playing through the song and just as the band loops the chorus to conclude the performance, the music fades into the background as lead singer/guitarist Lane begins telling the band's incredible story with a narrating voice over.

CHRIS

You know, it's funny how one second, you're sitting on a street corner writing what you hope will be your greatest song and the next second, you're playing sold-out arenas, signing autographs and meeting your rock-n-roll heroes like it's orientation on the first day of school. Believe me when I say that "surreal" doesn't even begin to describe it. (Pauses) Still, as hard as it may be to believe, it was actually less than nine months ago when we were a local band in the town of Saturday Crossing, trying to get noticed like any other local band -

until that one night; the night Jackie
and I met; when all of us first began
to realize just how much our lives
were about to change, and just how big
our big break was really gonna be.

FADE OUT.

EXT. - EARLY EVENING - MAIN STREET IN THE TOWN OF SATURDAY
CROSSING

As the scene begins, we get a shot of a fairly busy street while the caption, "June, 2004" fades in, holds for a few moments, then fades out as Christian "Chris" Lane, a young, clean-cut, T-shirt and jeans guitarist and singer-songwriter, sits alone on a bench just off the street playing riffs on his acoustic guitar and humming to himself, obviously trying to complete something he's in the process of writing. Behind him, a large concert venue is slowly filling up for an event going on later that evening as a warm, gentle breeze pushes the clouds above and multi-colored heat lightning occasionally lights up the sky. Seemingly not distracted by all the activity, Chris continues strumming on his guitar, apparently looking for something in the music that he just can't seem to find. After a few minutes however, his solitude is interrupted by an inviting but unfamiliar face. Her name is Jacqueline "Jackie" Lyons.

JACKIE

(Gently moving her reddish-brown
hair away from her green eyes as
she walks up to Chris)

Hi.

CHRIS

(Still strumming on his guitar but
definitely noticing as Jackie
addresses him)

Hi.

JACKIE

That sounds good. What you're playing
there.

CHRIS

Thanks.

JACKIE

Did you write it?

CHRIS

I'm trying to. Just can't seem to grab a couple of the notes.

JACKIE

That sounds frustrating.

CHRIS

(With a friendly but frustrated smile)

It is. (He thinks for a moment) I'll get it though.

JACKIE

(With an encouraging smile)

That's good. I'd hate for something that sounds so nice go to waste.

CHRIS

(Returning the smile, then looking back down at his guitar as he strums a couple more times)

Yeah, I never like to waste anything I write. Even if I have to do something else than what I originally wanted to do with it, I always like to use it somehow. (He pauses for a moment, then looks at her) You can sit down if you like.

JACKIE

(As she complies)

Thanks. I hope I'm not bothering you though. I wouldn't want to get in the way.

CHRIS

Not at all. (He gently leans his guitar on the end of the bench closest to him) I was gonna take a bit of a break anyway.

JACKIE

Okay then. I'm Jackie, by the way. Jackie Lyons.

CHRIS

(As they shake hands)

Chris Lane.

JACKIE
Nice to meet you, Chris.

CHRIS
You too.

JACKIE
So, how long have you been playing?

CHRIS
Since I was a kid. I started with
guitar and ventured into a few other
instruments, but guitar has always
been my main.

JACKIE
(Smiles)
That's kinda cool.

CHRIS
(Returning the smile)
Thanks.

JACKIE
I've always thought guitarists were
sexy, actually.

CHRIS
(Smiling again, but not exactly
sure how to respond to Jackie's
comment)
You have, huh?

JACKIE
Yes.

CHRIS
(Smiling awkwardly)
I would come up with a really charming
response to that if I had one.

JACKIE
(Laughing at Chris's comment)
Well, if you think of one, let me
know.

CHRIS
I will.

JACKIE
So, you from Saturday Crossing?

CHRIS
All my life. You?

JACKIE
No, just moved here.

CHRIS
(Laughing)
You actually moved here? Wow, most people I know try to move away.

JACKIE
Why, is it that bad?

CHRIS
It's not that it's bad. It's just...I don't know...small-time, I guess.

JACKIE
So what's wrong with that?

CHRIS
Nothing, if you're into it.

JACKIE
(Almost playfully)
Ah, I get it. You're not into small-town living. The aspiring rock star, looking to hit the big-time. I think that's kinda sexy, too.

CHRIS
(Smiling awkwardly again, but also thinking about what Jackie just said)
I don't know. Maybe. I guess it sounds cliché, but it might be true. To some degree, anyway.

JACKIE
To some degree?

CHRIS
Yeah. I mean, I'm not looking to abandon my roots, you know? I grew up here. This is where I became who I am.

JACKIE
But who you are is...bigger than small-town living.

CHRIS

I don't know. I don't want to sound full of myself.

JACKIE

Well, you're not being full of yourself if you're just telling the truth. (She pauses for a second and looks at the venue behind them as it continues to fill up) Isn't there a big concert going on there tonight?

CHRIS

(Looking over to the venue briefly, then back toward Jackie)
Yeah. Pretty big, I guess. It's called, the "Rock Showcase." Local acts.

JACKIE

Wow, you know, that's where you should be. Playing at a place like that. Do you have a band?

CHRIS

Yeah. For quite a while, actually. Since middle school.

JACKIE

Middle school, huh? Wow. And how old are you now?

CHRIS

Thirty.

JACKIE

That's really cool. Does your band have a name?

CHRIS

Odyssey.

JACKIE

(Thinking about the name for a moment)
Odyssey. I like it. So you guys have been together for a long time then.

CHRIS

Yeah, a really long time. We've actually made a bit of a regional name

doing a lot of covers but recently,
we've been playing some new originals
and people seem to like them. (He
looks at the venue while thinking for
a second then looks back at Jackie)
You wanna take a walk? Get a beer or
something?

JACKIE

Sure.

As Chris grabs his guitar, puts it in its bag and slings it
over his shoulder, the two of them stand up and start walking
down the street, continuing their conversation.

CHRIS

So what about you? What brings you
here besides the draw of small town
living?

JACKIE

(Laughing at Chris's sarcasm)
Yeah, small town living. No, a change
of scenery, actually. I left a job I
had been at for a long time where I
used to live, then as I was thinking
about getting something else, I
realized that I had become bored with
my surroundings so I decided to try
something new.

CHRIS

Wow. I'm surprised you didn't move to
a bigger community then.

JACKIE

What, like a big city?

CHRIS

Yeah, something like that.

JACKIE

I wouldn't mind it. Maybe someday.
Just haven't had the right opportunity
yet, you know?

CHRIS

Yeah, I get what you mean.

JACKIE
(With a smile of satisfaction)
Good. I'm glad.

As the two of them come up to a local bar and grill, Chris opens the door for Jackie.

JACKIE
(As she walks through the doorway
and gives Chris another smile)
A gentleman. Thank you.

CHRIS
(Returning the smile)
My pleasure.

JACKIE
(Looking around at the place as
music plays and the atmosphere is
alive, with the two of them
sitting down at the bar moments
later)
This is kind of a nice place. You come
here a lot?

CHRIS
Not really a lot. Maybe once in a
while. You know, pool, darts, big
sports games on TV. Things like that.

JACKIE
Yeah, I get it.

Moments later, after Chris orders a couple of beers for the two of them, their conversation continues.

CHRIS
So when you're not searching for
adventure and excitement, what you do
you do?

JACKIE
Finance, actually.

CHRIS
Really? That's interesting. What drew
you to that industry?

JACKIE
Well, I'm good with numbers, but I've
also been into acting for years. I did

it in high school and local theater where I was living before. And maybe someday, I might get to do it professionally. So if and when that time comes, I'd like to be able to hold my own in terms of the business end of it all. Not to mention that finance also keeps me employed.

CHRIS

That's definitely important. Did you go to school for it?

JACKIE

Yeah, I have a degree.

CHRIS

Impressive. Seems like you have a good head on your shoulders.

JACKIE

(Flattered)

Thank you.

CHRIS

You're welcome.

JACKIE

(As the bartender places their drinks in front of them)

So what about you? What do you do in between songs?

CHRIS

(Smiles amusingly, almost as if to indicate being overwhelmed)

There is no in between songs for me. I got my Master's in Music, primarily in songwriting and production, and that's what I've been doing since then. I run a local recording studio.

JACKIE

Wow, now that's impressive.

CHRIS

(Laughs and rolls his eyes as just before taking a drink)

Not always.

JACKIE

Oh, but even if it has its' rough days, to do something like that, you have to love it.

CHRIS

Believe me, I do. It's just not always easy.

JACKIE

(Before also taking a drink)
Nothing is.

CHRIS

I guess it can just be very tedious. I love the process but I'm always impatient. I can never wait to hear the end result, you know? (He smiles as he thinks) Maybe I'm just too much of a fan.

JACKIE

There...see what I mean?

CHRIS

What?

JACKIE

That's why you do it. That's the love, you know?

CHRIS

Yeah, I know.

JACKIE

That's what you need to use in writing that song you were working on when we first started talking.

CHRIS

(Thinking for a moment, then smiling)
You should be an inspirational speaker or something.

JACKIE

(Laughing, then taking a drink before responding)
No, I just like to see people reaching their full potential. Or trying to, anyway.

CHRIS
Well, you're definitely inspiring me.

JACKIE
(With a sweet smile of
satisfaction)
Good.

For a few moments, there's a gentle, silent pause between the two of them; until "Keep On Loving You," by REO Speedwagon, starts to play.

CHRIS
You wanna dance?

JACKIE
(With a smile)
Yes.

With that, Chris and Jackie walk together onto the dance floor and began to move, feeling unquestionably like this moment was meant to be.

JACKIE
I love this song.

CHRIS
So do I. Always have.

JACKIE
Hmm. A source of inspiration for you,
perhaps?

CHRIS
As a matter of fact, yes. Well, one of
many.

JACKIE
I can tell just by the way you're
moving to it. Your body language, it
connects with the music like two
people who have been close for years.

CHRIS
You're very observational.

JACKIE
Yeah, that's always been one of my
strongest characteristics.

With another pause in their conversation, Jackie moves in

closer to Chris as the dance continues.

JACKIE

You seem a little nervous. Has it been that long since you've danced with a woman?

CHRIS

I'm not really nervous, just up tight. I have a lot on my mind.

JACKIE

Like?

CHRIS

The song I'm working on. You don't know how important it is that I get it finished.

JACKIE

It must really mean a lot to you.

CHRIS

It does. (He looks her in the eyes) I really feel like it's supposed to be my greatest. The best one I've written so far. I mean, I really feel like this one's gonna be it, you know? That one that brings us over the edge.

JACKIE

So then, what are you so up tight about?

CHRIS

Just afraid that it might not happen.

JACKIE

(As she moves even closer to him)
Well, I might not know you all that well, but I have faith in you.

CHRIS

Thanks. That's encouraging.

JACKIE

I hope so because I mean it. You have a talent, Chris. I could tell that just by walking up and hearing what you were working on. You've got to be more confident in that.

CHRIS

I know. I guess it's just the small town in me again.

JACKIE

No, the small town is fine. It's insecurity. But you have to understand that you were given this gift for a reason. (The two of them just look at each other for a second as they continue the dance) Maybe this song is the ultimate reason. Or at least the beginning of it.

Chris stops and looks Jackie in the eyes with a sincere admiration.

CHRIS

You know, when we first met, I wasn't sure whether you'd become a distraction or an inspiration.

JACKIE

(Looking directly back at him and smiling sweetly)
And now?

Just then, the two of them share a tender kiss, one that reflects Chris's creative passion and Jackie's desire for artistic adventure all at once. Moments later, the two of them continue dancing to the rest of the song.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - MAIN STREET, SATURDAY CROSSING

A short time later, as Chris and Jackie walk back down the street, hand-in-hand and heading in the direction toward where they first met, they discuss how things are at that particular moment - and where they might end up, even by the time the night is over.

CHRIS

Well, I have to admit that I never, in my wildest dreams, expected tonight to go the way it's going.

JACKIE

That makes two of us.

They both continue to walk for a few moments, quietly

thinking about how things are. Then Chris turns to Jackie again.

CHRIS

So now what?

JACKIE

What do you mean?

CHRIS

I mean, now what? Like, between you and I. Should I be asking that question?

JACKIE

I don't have any problems with you asking. But I do think there are two answers.

CHRIS

(Slightly surprised and curious)
TWO answers?

JACKIE

(With slight smile of playful self-satisfaction)
Yes. Two.

CHRIS

Okay. So...what are they?

JACKIE

Well, the first answer, the long-term answer, is that I don't know. Not exactly. We'll just have to wait and see, I guess. You know, take things one step at a time from where they are right now. That is, as long as that works for you. I know it definitely does for me.

CHRIS

Oh, it works for me as well. I have no complaints. (Pauses for a moment, then speaks up again) And what about the other answer?

JACKIE

The other answer is the short-term.
(She stops and looks at him affectionately but matter-of-factly)

Right now - I mean, this very moment -
you are going to go and finish that
song.

CHRIS

(Wryly)

Yeah, you're right. I have been
distracted for too long already
tonight.

JACKIE

(Punching him in the shoulder and
poking him in the chest playfully)

That's right, buddy. And a good
distraction at that.

CHRIS

(Smiling)

Absolutely - the best kind. I feel
inspired now. Like whatever was
getting in the way of me writing this
song is no longer there.

JACKIE

That's good.

CHRIS

It's fantastic.

After a few moments and an affectionate pause, the two of
them look into each other's eyes. Then Jackie speaks up
again.

JACKIE

This was a nice evening, one that I
know I'd like to do again. But the
rest of the night is your time. (She
grabs his phone from his pocket and
enters her number then gives it back
to him and smiles) I'll be here.

With that, and one more tender kiss, the two of them part
company. As Chris walks away to finish his song, Jackie looks
over and watches him until he disappears behind a few
buildings.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - MAIN STREET, SATURDAY CROSSING

A little while later, Jackie's walking by herself down Main Street, reflecting on her evening with Chris and thinking about how much she hopes he succeeds with his music. Just then, she notices that she's back near the place where they first met, in front of the concert venue. Remembering that Chris said there's a concert going on that night, she decides to check it out. Entering the venue and paying for her admission, she starts to open the door to the theater where the concert is going on when another guy, Mike, comes walking in from the side and reaches to grab the door at the same time Jackie does. Immediately, he and Jackie both cordially pull away from the door to allow each other room to open it.

JACKIE

I'm sorry.

MIKE

Oh, it's fine. You were here first.
Besides, I should be opening the door
for you anyway.

JACKIE

Well thank you. Wow, you're the second
gentleman I've met here tonight.

MIKE

What, here in this venue?

JACKIE

No, the town. I just moved here
recently.

MIKE

That's cool. How do you like living
here?

JACKIE

It's nice.

MIKE

Yeah, it's not a bad place.

JACKIE

(Looking around momentarily)
And this is a nice venue.

MIKE

Yeah, it is pretty nice. Perfect for
concerts like this one.

JACKIE
So it would seem.

MIKE
Are you here by yourself?

JACKIE
Yeah. I spent the evening with someone before, then he had to go and do something so I just went for a walk and decided to drop in here. What about you?

MIKE
I'm actually the manager of a band in the show that a big record producer came to hear. They really need to bring their A-game to this show so I wanted to listen to them from the crowd and see how they look and sound from a spectator's point of view.

JACKIE
(Surprised)
Wow, that's exciting.

MIKE
(As he reaches to open the auditorium door for Jackie)
Yeah, we're all pretty psyched about it.

Just then, Jackie gratefully walks by Mike as he holds the door for her. Making her way into the theater, she's struck by the sight of the whole place jumping as the band onstage just tears it up.

JACKIE
(Turning to Mike and yelling over the music as he stops next to her)
This is really cool!

MIKE
(Also yelling so she'll hear him)
Yeah, it is! (Just then, he points to the stage) Actually, that's the band I'm managing! The one rocking the place right now! They're playing a brand new song; this is the first time anyone's ever heard it!

As Jackie looks, she's delighted to see that the lead singer/guitarist of the band is none other than Chris himself.

JACKIE

(To Mike)

Let me guess...that's Odyssey!

MIKE

(Surprised)

Yeah! How'd you know?!

JACKIE

(As Chris notices her from the stage and smiles, with Jackie smiling back)

I just recently heard of them! (She glances back at Mike for a moment, then at Chris again) They're good!

MIKE

Yeah, they are - really good! (He pauses as the two of them watch Odyssey for a moment, then speaks up again) Something tells me they're gonna be getting signed tonight!

JACKIE

Yeah, I think you're right!

MIKE

(With a smile as the two of them continue to watch the show from the aisle)

They deserve it - they've been at it for a long time! (He continues to listen to them for a moment, then goes on) Yeah, this is definitely it! This is the beginning of it all, right here!

JACKIE

(As she and Chris share one more smile from across the theater)

I couldn't agree with you more!

With that, Mike and Jackie continue watching the show as Jackie stands amazed at the way everything has unfolded on this remarkable evening.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - BACKSTAGE AT THE SATURDAY CROSSING ROCK
SHOWCASE

Shortly after Odyssey's show-stopping performance at the Rock Showcase, Mike heads backstage with Jackie in tow. At first, the scene is chaotic, with the members of various bands walking around, some packing up their instruments and others tuning or rehearsing with theirs. In the middle of it all are local band managers, reporters, stage hands and security guards - one of whom stands in Mike and Jackie's way, stopping them from getting through.

SECURITY GUARD

Hey, sorry guys, no fans allowed
backstage. If you wanna see the bands,
some of them might be out in the lobby
after the show.

Just then, the drummer of Odyssey, Simon Prince, notices Mike trying to get through.

SIMON

(To the security guard)

Hey, man. He's our manager. He's good.

MIKE

(To the guard as he looks at
Jackie)

She's with me.

GUARD

Okay. Bring her on back.

Just then, Mike and Jackie walk past the guard and back toward Simon. Immediately, Mike begins to gush.

MIKE

Man, you guys were great!

SIMON

(Obviously appreciative of the
compliment)

Thanks. I'll tell you man, being up
there was a blast. That song Chris
just wrote; the one we played-

MIKE

(Interrupting)

I know! I've never heard you guys play
like that before! It was unbelievable!
It was seriously like you were on a

whole different level tonight.

SIMON

It felt like we were, you know? Like it was supposed to be this way. Chris wrote it before and we nailed it down in a surprisingly quick rehearsal just before the show. Perfect night for this all to happen, too.

MIKE

I know. The label guy didn't talk to you yet, did he?

SIMON

No, not yet. I'm not even sure if he's here or not, but I have been keeping my eyes peeled.

MIKE

Okay. Well then, we should find everybody else. Because if he is here, he'll probably be coming to talk to us any minute.

SIMON

(As they start making their way through the crowds of people)
So, you gonna introduce me to your friend here, or should I introduce myself?

MIKE

Yeah, Simon, this is Jackie. Jackie, this is Simon Prince, the drummer of Odyssey.

SIMON

(Shaking hands with Jackie as they keep moving further backstage)
Hi, Jackie. Nice to meet you.

JACKIE

The pleasure's mine. You guys were really fantastic.

SIMON

Thanks. Hopefully this label guy we're supposed to talk to tonight will agree with you.

Just then, Mike, Jackie and Simon find the rest of the band.

SIMON

(To Chris, who's obviously very
happy to see Jackie there)
Hey, I found Mike and...Jackie, here.
She was with Mike in the crowd.

CHRIS

(To Jackie)
Well, I can't say I'm not surprised
that you ended up here.

JACKIE

(Also very happy to see Chris)
You and me both. I had no idea you
were even with one of the bands here
tonight until I saw you onstage. I
guess you finally got your song done.

CHRIS

Yeah, thanks to you.

JACKIE

(Very surprised at Chris' response)
Thanks to ME?!

CHRIS

Yeah. You, as it turned out, were my
inspiration. After we parted company
and I came here, the whole song just
exploded out of me. Took me ten
minutes to write the entire thing.

JACKIE

(Shocked)
Wow...seriously?!

MIKE

(As he and the rest of the band
members stand there, slightly
confused)
Wait...you guys know each other?

CHRIS

Yeah. We met tonight. Remember when I
took that walk because of how unsure I
was feeling about everything a while

before the show? How, although I love everything in our catalog, still, I just didn't feel like anything in it seemed to fit what we were going for with tonight's performance?

MIKE

Yeah.

CHRIS

Most of the time, I was with Jackie. I was sitting out on one of the benches near the venue here, trying to come up with the right song, and she liked what I was playing. So she approached, we started talking and just like that, we hit it off. Spent a little time together, just around the area, then after she went her way and I came back here, it was like the whole song was all there, right in my head, waiting to be written. (He looks at her with obvious admiration) I guess you could say she was my muse.

MIKE

(Turning to Jackie)

Well, Chris' muse, I'd just like to say thank you. Because whatever you said when you were with him, whatever you did, whatever happened, may very well have been that last piece to the puzzle. It might be just what we needed to get to where we're hoping to be by the end of this night.

JACKIE

(Still surprised but appreciative)

Well, you're welcome. Although, I really didn't do anything. We just had a nice time together, you know? A nice walk, a nice conversation. (She turns to Chris) What's the name of that song, anyway? The new one you wrote?

CHRIS

"Perfect Storm."

MIKE

(Getting the meaning right away)
A surprise combination of elements
forming an unusually powerful event.
Very good. Nice metaphor, Chris.

DINA

(Odyssey's lead guitarist)
Yeah, great metaphor but also, very
romantic. And Chris, don't you dare
try to deny it. (After playfully
embarrassing Chris, she turns to
Jackie) Hi, I'm Dina. Great to meet
you.

JACKIE

(Amused by Dina's comment to
Chris, though slightly
embarrassed herself as the two
women shake hands)
Hi Dina.

DINA

(Motioning toward the band's bass
player, Greg, who also steps
forward the shake Jackie's hand)
This is Greg. He plays bass and also
writes. We all write, actually. I've
been his "muse" since we were in high
school. (She turns to Greg, playfully
expecting him to agree) Right, Greg?

GREG

(Visibly amused by Dina's comments
while also stepping forward to
meet Jackie)
That's right, my queen. (He shakes
hands with Jackie) It's nice to meet
you, Jackie.

JACKIE

Nice to meet you as well.

MIKE

(Looking around)
Okay, so where is this label guy?

CHRIS

Have you seen him since we've been
here, Mike?

MIKE

(Still looking around)

No. To be honest, I don't even know who he is. Like, his name or what he looks like or anything.

SIMON

So then, what do you know about him?

MIKE

All I know is that the label said they were sending someone to see you guys in the show tonight.

DINA

Okay. Well then, I guess we should probably just hang around and wait for him to approach us.

GREG

If he's even here.

DINA

I'm sure he is. Why would the label say they were sending someone, then not do it?

Just then, the label guy shows up - shocking everyone there as a slight commotion from around the room precedes him, kept in check only by venue security who escorts him over to meet Odyssey. He is rock legend, Eddie Wilson.

EDDIE

(Responding to Dina's question about the label moments after she asks it)

They wouldn't. That's why I'm here.
(He reaches to shake Dina's hand)
Eddie Wilson.

DINA

(Trying not to act star-struck as she shakes his hand)

Dina McClary. (She motions toward everyone else) This is the rest of the band, Chris Lane, Greg Turner and Simon Prince, our manager, Mike Soriello and Chris' girlfriend, Jackie.

EDDIE

(As Chris and Jackie look at each other with surprise, though not disagreement, following the way Dina introduced Jackie to Eddie)
It's good to meet you all. (He looks around) Is there someplace away from all this where we can talk?

CHRIS

Yeah. I think there are a couple of dressing rooms around here somewhere. We can see if there's one available.

A short time later, the group has managed to find an available dressing room and is casually discussing things with Eddie.

EDDIE

Okay. I'm gonna be straight here. I like you guys. You have a clean sound, good stage presence, your songs are original, but they still manage to convey a type of classic rock n' roll that, in my opinion, isn't as easy to find among new bands as it used to be. And if there's anything that anyone knows about me, it's that I know good rock n' roll when I hear it. (He thinks for a moment then continues)
I've been at this for a long time. I started with the Cruisers, then I backed off, you could say, for close to two decades. Then I came back with Rock Solid. And we've been going for over twenty years. Plus I like to play some Cruisers reunion shows once in a while. But a few years ago, after Capitol Records bought Satin Records, and our contract with it, I was given the opportunity to do some producing for Capitol and was surprised to realize just how much I liked it. And that's how I discovered you guys. Capitol played the demo for me that you sent them. Now, do you have any albums done or anything? You know, anything recorded besides the demo?

CHRIS

No, not yet. Actually, we've only been

doing full original sets for a relatively short time. Before this, we made a name for ourselves locally, doing a lot of covers. But we had all been writing for a long time so one day, we decided to start including some of our own stuff into our cover sets and eventually, the covers were just occasional because everybody wanted to hear our original stuff. So then we put together the demo and started trying to get it circulated.

EDDIE

When you guys were doing covers, did you stick with the music of any particular band?

CHRIS

No, it was all just pretty general. You know, stuff that we've all grown up listening to.

EDDIE

...Stuff that inspired you to do what you're doing now?

CHRIS

Yeah, exactly.

EDDIE

(Obviously pleased with the band's attitude and upbringing)
I like that. You're not just musicians; you're also fans.

CHRIS

Yes, sir. We've all loved rock for about as far back as we can remember. It's what brought us together when we were in school. We spent years celebrating it with our covers, but now we're trying to bring our own thing to the table. Something real, you know?

EDDIE
(Thinking about his own
aspirations when he was first
starting)
Something great.

CHRIS
Exactly.

EDDIE
(After standing up, walking around
the room for a moment and
thinking again)
Okay. That's what I wanted to hear.
(He pauses momentarily, then continues
again) Capitol Records wanted me to
come here to see if you were as good
live as you were in the demo. They
said that if I liked you enough to
produce you, they'd offer you a
contract. But they were pretty clear
that it was my call.

CHRIS
(As everyone in the room is
clearly excited to know what
Eddie has decided)
Okay. So then...what do you think?

EDDIE
(After one more momentary pause)
I think you guys are gonna get signed.

Immediately, everyone begins to celebrate. At that moment
however, Eddie notices that Chris' celebration is a bit
reserved.

EDDIE
Something on your mind, Chris?

CHRIS
A little. (He looks around) I'm
thrilled about all of this. I mean, I
really am. But I'm just a little
concerned.

EDDIE
About what?

CHRIS
As much as we've all wanted this, I

just hope we don't get twisted into the next Top-40 factory project. I mean, I am thrilled. And I really hope we make it big. I'd love to hear our songs on the radio. I just don't want the life of the music to get squeezed out for the sake of record sales.

EDDIE

I know you don't. That's one of the reasons why I want to work with you. Because that's how I was when I first started, and I've never abandoned those principles. So trust me when I say that as long as we're working together, even though you're gonna have the hype and the success, the music will always come first. Okay?

CHRIS

(Visibly more relieved)

Okay.

Just then, Jackie walks up to Chris.

JACKIE

Hey. Congratulations.

CHRIS

(With a smile)

Thanks.

JACKIE

This has turned out to be quite an evening.

CHRIS

Yeah. To say the least.

JACKIE

So, what are you gonna do now?

CHRIS

Well, right now, I'm gonna find out from Eddie what comes next. Then after that, I'm gonna suggest to the band that we go out and have some dinner to celebrate. I don't know about them, but I've been so nervous over what may or may not have happened tonight that

I haven't eaten all day. What about you, you hungry?

JACKIE
Yeah, I could eat. I have to admit though, my stomach's got butterflies for you all right now. This is unbelievable.

CHRIS
Unbelievable, outrageous...it's a dream come true.

CUT.

EXT. - DAYTIME - THE FRONT PORCH OF JACKIE'S APARTMENT HOUSE

The following day, as Jackie is sitting outside on the porch of the old, subdivided apartment house that she recently moved into, her thoughts wander back and forth between the peaceful relaxation she's experiencing at that moment and her curiosity about what kind of excitement Chris and the other members of his band must be feeling as their music career is in the process of taking off. Her curiosity lasts only for a moment however, as she is surprised to see Chris walking down the street, heading in her direction.

JACKIE
(As Chris makes his way onto the porch after a minute or two)
Hi.

CHRIS
Hi.

JACKIE
Didn't expect to see you here today. You know, with everything that's happening with your band and all. When did Eddie say you guys are gonna be heading to L.A. again?

CHRIS
Tomorrow. We're flying out tomorrow.

JACKIE
(Motioning toward a spot next to her)
Here, have a seat.

CHRIS
(Sitting down)
Thanks.

JACKIE
So. I'm sure you're thrilled.

CHRIS
Oh yeah. A little overwhelmed, but in
a good way. And definitely thrilled.

JACKIE
(Looking forward and imagining how
Chris and his band mates must be
feeling)
Wow. This is just...incredible. I
mean, it's like, the kind of thing you
read about or hear about, but hardly
ever actually see happening right in
front of you - or actually experience,
as in your case. (She and Chris look
at each other for a moment before
Jackie concludes) I really am
incredibly happy for you guys. I mean,
I know that you and I didn't know each
other for most of the time you were
working toward this, but after seeing
and hearing you play, and seeing what
followed, I have no doubt that you've
earned every moment of success you
have coming. That goes for all of you.
And I can't believe how lucky I am
just to be here witnessing it.

CHRIS
(With an appreciative smile)
Yeah, well, that's actually what I
came here to talk to you about.

JACKIE
(Surprised but curious)
Okay.

CHRIS
(Pausing for a moment as he tries
to find the right words)
I think it's probably safe to say that
when you and I met the other night,
neither of us was taking it all that
seriously at first. You know, it was
like, just one of those nice

opportunities that, if it went somewhere, so be it and if it didn't, that would've been fine as well.
(Nervously) You get what I'm saying? I mean, I'm not trying to downplay our meeting, I'm just saying that-

JACKIE

(Politely interrupting with a smile as she gently takes his hand)

Chris - it's okay. I get what you mean.

CHRIS

(Still a bit nervous but also relieved)

You do? Because I don't want to come off as a jerk or anything.

JACKIE

Yes, I get it. And you're not coming off as anything. You're right. It was just one of those random things.

CHRIS

Well, yeah. But it was also one of those random things that ended up going really...really well.

JACKIE

(With another, this time, delighted and appreciative smile)

I'm glad you feel that way.

CHRIS

Yeah. So am I. And...I think I know the reason why.

JACKIE

Okay.

CHRIS

Meeting you was really nice. It was. The brief amount time time we spent together before the show was a very pleasant surprise. (He pauses again before continuing) But...I don't think that's all it was.

JACKIE
What do you mean?

CHRIS
You remember when we first met Eddie Wilson? And Dina introduced you as my girlfriend?

JACKIE
(With an obvious hint of fond recollection)
Yes.

CHRIS
How did that make you feel? Honestly?

JACKIE
(Thinking about it for a moment)
Well...it definitely surprised me. And I could tell just by your expression that it surprised you too.

CHRIS
Yeah. That's...an understatement.

JACKIE
But in all honesty...I really didn't mind so much. I mean, yeah, we just met not that long ago. And we really don't know each other all THAT well yet. But still, there was just something about the idea of you and I that, when Dina put it out there...I kinda liked it.

CHRIS
(Thinking momentarily)
Yeah. So did I. (Pauses, then continues) That actually brings me to my next question.

JACKIE
Okay.

CHRIS
I've had relationships over the years, as I'm sure you have as well. And every relationship has a different effect on a person. Well, as a musician, as I'm sure you understand, I have been inspired by the different

relationships I've had - for better or for worse. (After thinking for another moment) But I have to say, Jackie...I've never been inspired by anyone or anything else on Earth the way I was inspired by you when I wrote "Perfect Storm" the other night. I mean...just...yeah.

JACKIE

(Pleasantly surprised and clearly impressed)

Wow. I, um...I don't really know what to say. That's quite an honor.

CHRIS

I'm glad you feel that way. Because being with someone who inspires me to this level is very important to me. It's kinda been a dream of mine, in terms of relationships. (He starts to think for a moment that he might be coming on strong) Now please, don't get me wrong. I'm not trying to say that I think you and I are destined to be married, or anything like that. Believe me, I like to take things one step at a time.

JACKIE

(Obviously flattered)

No, it's fine. I get what you're saying. And believe me, you're not coming on too strong. You're just being honest.

CHRIS

Exactly - I'm being honest. And in my honesty, I feel it's necessary to tell you that I've never met anyone like you. Even in the short time we've known each other, the effect you've had on me has been monumental.

JACKIE

(Smiling)

Well thank you. Now I really don't know what to say.

CHRIS
(Turning to her with a look of
true sincerity)
Say yes.

JACKIE
(Surprised but a little confused)
Um...yes to what? Like, being with
you? Like, in a relationship?

CHRIS
Well...yeah, that too.

JACKIE
(Smiling again - very flattered)
Okay. Yes.

CHRIS
(Obviously happy, but still
getting at something else)
Okay. That's...that's great.

JACKIE
But what else are you asking? You said
you wanted me to say yes to being in a
relationship with you also. What was
the other thing?

CHRIS
I want you to come to L.A. with us.

JACKIE
(Very surprised)
Wow...what?! Okay, you want me to come
with you guys?!

CHRIS
Yes. I really do.

JACKIE
But...why? I mean...did you ask the
rest of the band? What about Mike?
Doesn't he think I might get in the
way? Or even Eddie? I mean, Eddie
Wilson is the one who invited you
guys. Eddie Wilson, Chris! You don't
think I might be just like, extra
baggage?

CHRIS

(Laughing with a bit of reassurance while taking Jackie's other hand to try and calm her down)

It's okay, I cleared it with everybody - Even Eddie. And believe it or not, they actually want you to come. I mean, they agree that you should be there.

JACKIE

(Extremely surprised and excited, but a little confused)

That's good but...but why? (She starts laughing nervously) Why me?

CHRIS

Because of how you inspire me.

JACKIE

(Still nervously laughing)

Wait, that's it? They all want me to come because of how I inspire you?

CHRIS

Jackie, I don't think you quite understand why this is such a big deal. The way you inspire me, I mean. (He thinks for a moment, then continues) Everyone we know who has heard this song, including, of course, the rest of the band themselves, consider "Perfect Storm" to be probably the greatest song I've ever written - and I'm known for being a good songwriter. And you were the inspiration; actually, the motivation, also, behind "Perfect Storm." Just the act of you and I meeting and spending a little bit of time together is behind probably the greatest musical composition I've ever created. And now, it's that song that has lifted us to the attention of Eddie Wilson himself, not to mention one of the most legendary record labels in the industry. So, because of this, it's been unanimously decided that you should be invited to come with us as we venture into...well...probably the

biggest opportunity of our lives.
Because you seem to be just...a
fountain of inspiration.

JACKIE

(After thinking about it for a
moment)

Wow. I have to say, this is really
something. (She starts laughing) I
mean, of course I'll come with you -
that's a given. But it just (Suddenly,
Chris stands up, elated, and grabs
her, embracing her as she finishes her
comment) amazes me that I can inspire
anyone to that high a level.

After a moment, Chris looks at Jackie, still holding her.

CHRIS

You think there's a reason why this
happened? You and I meeting and all?

JACKIE

Well, personally, I do believe in God,
and I believe He has a reason for
everything that He does.

CHRIS

Yeah, I feel the same way; especially
right now. Because this is all too
incredible to be just a coincidence.

JACKIE

(Smiling)

I agree.

At that moment, the two of them kiss, barely able to contain
the excitement over the incredible events that are so rapidly
taking shape in their lives.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - THE CABIN OF THE PRIVATE JET, ON ITS' WAY TO
L.A.

A short time later, as everyone sits comfortably on the jet,
the members of Odyssey are greatly enjoying what is the very
beginning of their rise to fame, as not only Dina, Greg and
Simon, but even Mr. Deal maker Mike himself marvel at the
luxury that surrounds them. A few feet away, Chris, Jackie

and Eddie sit together, discussing things that led up to the current situation.

EDDIE

So Chris, tell me, how exactly did you guys all get to where you are now?

CHRIS

What, you mean our history?

EDDIE

Yeah. You know, where you guys each came from, how you met, what brought you together, all that.

CHRIS

Well, we all met in Jr. high, actually.

EDDIE

I believe it. Some of the greatest rock musicians in history met in school.

CHRIS

For sure. And that was what brought us together. Our passion for great rock. (He smiles) We used to sit around at lunch just talking music in the cafeteria.

EDDIE

And I bet you were always the kids with the band shirts.

CHRIS

Of course. I used to collect them.

EDDIE

Is that right?

CHRIS

Oh yeah. I had them all. KISS, Journey, Foreigner, Zeppelin, I had Rock Solid AND Eddie And The Cruisers...

EDDIE

(Flattered)

You did, huh?

CHRIS
Absolutely. Actually, you know what I
also had?

EDDIE
What?

CHRIS
The limited edition shirt.

EDDIE
Wow, you seriously had that. Man, I
gotta say, that's cool. Believe it or
not, you're one of the very few people
I've ever met who had that shirt.

JACKIE
What shirt was that?

CHRIS
You remember when Eddie first revealed
himself again back in like, (He looks
over at Eddie for a moment, trying to
remember, then back at Jackie) I think
it was around '84, when Rock Solid
first came out?

JACKIE
Yeah.

CHRIS
Well, there was a shirt that was
printed and there were only a certain
number of them. It was a limited
edition Eddie Wilson shirt, with Rock
Solid on the front and Eddie And The
Cruisers on the back.

JACKIE
Yeah, actually, now that I think about
it, I seem to remember seeing a
commercial for that on TV.

CHRIS
Satin Records stopped making them
almost as quickly as they started.
Kind of a way to capitalize on Eddie's
re-emergence.

EDDIE

(With a laugh)

...And believe me, if there's anything
Satin is good at, it's finding ways to
capitalize.

CHRIS

(As he and Jackie laugh at Eddie's
comment)

Well, when the shirts were first out,
they were like, crazy expensive. But I
still wanted one nonetheless. I've
always been a huge fan of rock and
Eddie's music has always been a big
part of that. So for, I think, my
thirteenth or fourteenth birthday, my
parents surprised me with one of the
limited edition shirts.

JACKIE

Wow, you must've been thrilled.

CHRIS

(Remembering fondly)

Oh yeah. Well, I got it a few years
after its release, when it wasn't as
expensive. My parents really looked
around for it and actually found it on
a rack at this really cool store in
the mall. It was the only one there.

EDDIE

You still have it?

CHRIS

(Thinking about it for a moment)

Yeah, actually. I think I do
somewhere. I should. I'm just as big a
fan now as I've ever been.

EDDIE

See, and that's what you want. That
right there. That longevity. You know
Rick Diesel, right?

CHRIS

Of course. Lead guitarist for Rock
Solid.

EDDIE

Well, when Rick and I first met and we

didn't even have specific plans to put a band together yet, He was as good on the guitar as he's always been, but his big focus was the hype. You know, the big tours and the magazine covers, all that. Ad that's fine. But it's good in its place. We had to get there first, and the way to do that was through the music. And I told him, because I first saw him playing in a bar with his old band, he and our eventual sax player, Hilton. They were both in it together, and I told Rick, yeah, he was good. But then I'd walk out of the bar and forget about him. And I know that probably sounded harsh at the time, but the point was that with Rock Solid, we needed to create a sound that people were gonna remember. I also said that when I was with the Cruisers. And now look at the result. Fans like yourself have a shirt with both bands on it that you've had for thirty years - and that's because you still listen to the music, right?

CHRIS

That's right.

EDDIE

And that's what you want. You guys, this band here. You have what it takes to create that type of legacy. The kind that's gonna have your fans staying loyal after three, four, however many decades. But it starts with the music. And that's the mentality you guys all need to have when you go into the studio. Because anything less isn't gonna cut it.

CHRIS

(Thinking about what Eddie just said)

Thanks, Eddie. I really appreciate that advice. I'll be sure to follow it.

EDDIE

I know you will. Like I said, you guys

have what it takes. I can tell just by watching you onstage, listening to your music, even just talking to you. It's something you either have, or you don't. And you have it. Which is good, because where you're going...you're gonna need it.

As the conversation continues, the jet prepares its descent to L.A.

CUT.

INT.- DAYTIME - CAPITOL RECORDS BUILDING, LOS ANGELES

Later that day, Eddie, the band, Mike and Jackie walk into the main entrance of the Capitol Records building. Looking around, Chris can hardly believe they're actually there.

CHRIS

(As he walks with Jackie)

This is incredible.

JACKIE

(Noticing that Chris seems almost overwhelmed)

Hey. You okay?

CHRIS

Yeah, I'm fine. I just...can't believe this is actually happening.

JACKIE

Well believe it, because it's real. You made it.

CHRIS

You know, sometimes, no matter how good we were, no matter how tight our sound was...I really wasn't sure if I believed we could actually get here.

JACKIE

I don't know why you wouldn't believe it. You've definitely earned it.

CHRIS

(Thinking about what Jackie just said, then turning to her)

Yeah, you know, you're right. We have

earned it, haven't we?

Just then, Dina speaks up.

DINA

You'd better believe it. Chris, we've been earning this for almost two decades. Every creative difference, every twelve-hour recording session, every show we've ever put on has been a step toward where we are right now. So take it all in because trust me, we have earned it.

At that moment, they all arrive at the elevators.

EDDIE

Okay you guys, this is it. The next few minutes of your life are gonna be among the biggest you'll ever experience. You're great musicians now. But you're going to meet the head of Capitol Records when you get off these elevators so pretty soon, you're gonna be rock stars.

Just then, in an almost scripted manner, Eddie's comment is immediately followed by the arrival of one of the elevators. As everyone steps in, Eddie turns to Jackie.

EDDIE

That couldn't have happened any more perfectly if I had timed it.

Seconds later, as Jackie laughs at Eddie's comment, the doors to the elevator close and the band prepares for what is indeed, one of the biggest moments of their lives.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - THE OFFICE OF STAN PRITCHARD, CEO OF CAPITOL RECORDS

Shortly after exiting the elevators, everyone walks in, led by Eddie, to the office of a middle-aged man with slightly gray hair and a sharp black suit. He is Capitol's CEO, Stan Pritchard. Immediately, Stan stands up from his desk as everyone enters the room.

STAN

(Shaking Eddie's hand)

Eddie, good to see you. (Immediately, he turns to everyone else as Eddie begins the introductions.) And this must be Odyssey.

EDDIE

(As Stan shakes hands with each person Eddie introduces)

Yes, Stan Pritchard, head of Capitol Records, this is Chris Lane, lead vocals and guitar, Dina McLary on lead guitar, Greg Turner on bass and Simon Prince, Odyssey's drummer. Mike Soriello here is the band's manager and over here is Jackie Lyons, Chris' muse.

STAN

(As he shakes Jackie's hand)

Chris' muse, huh? That means you must be pretty special.

JACKIE

(Flattered but not quite sure what to say)

I...guess. Apparently Chris was inspired to write his most recent song right after we met.

STAN

Yes, "Perfect Storm." I had the pleasure of listening to it the other day. It's quite a song.

JACKIE

It absolutely is, this is a very talented band.

STAN

(As he turns and addresses everyone in the room)

Yes, it most certainly is, and you all have the approval of the great Eddie Wilson, which is enough for me. So let's find someplace comfortable, discuss the terms of your contract with Capitol, sign what needs to be signed and get you all on your way.

With that, the group heads out of the office and down the hall, where Odyssey will finally sign their first big record deal.

CUT.

EXT. - DAYTIME - SATURDAY CROSSING REGIONAL AIRPORT

The following day, as the members of Odyssey, along with Mike and Jackie, arrive at the airport, Eddie Wilson is already there, waiting for them with a private jet ready to fly them to L.A. As they all gather on the tarmac, Eddie begins to explain everything that's going to happen from that point on.

EDDIE

Okay everybody, good to see you all here. So, we're gonna fly to LAX where a limo is gonna take us right to Capitol. There, you're gonna meet with Scott Granger.

GREG

Scott Granger...as in, the head of Capitol Records Scott Granger?

EDDIE

That would be the one. He wants to meet you all personally.

SIMON

(Amazed)

Man, this is unbelievable. And just to think, two days ago, we were rehearsing our set for the Saturday Crossing Band Showcase.

EDDIE

(Amused but appreciative at how the band marvels at everything that's going on)

You're moving at the speed of music now, man. When you're out on stage or meeting people at after-parties, it can make your head spin. But when you're in the studio, it can take forever trying find just the right sound. One thing's for sure though; you're in a whole new world.

CHRIS

This is awesome. And what's just as

awesome, I'm sure, is us getting onto that jet and heading to L.A. When do we leave?

EDDIE

Right now, my man. You good to go?

CHRIS

Oh, I'm good. (He looks at Simon) You good, Simon?

SIMON

I'm good, bro. (He looks at everyone else) You all good?

DINA

I'm good. (She looks at Greg, Mike and Jackie) What about you guys?

MIKE

Couldn't be better, Dina. Ready to rock.

EDDIE

(Motioning toward the plane)
Okay then, let's do it.

With that, Odyssey, Mike, Jackie and Eddie all board the jet. Moments later, it takes off, heading straight into Odyssey's future.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - CAPITOL STUDIOS, LOS ANGELES, CA

A short while later, after the whirlwind of Odyssey's label signing has begun, the band is finally in the studio at the legendary Capitol Studios. With Eddie in the control room going over the equipment settings with the engineers, Chris is in the studio with the rest of the band, preparing to record his lead vocal track for "Perfect Storm" as Dina, Greg and Simon talk among themselves while they each wait for their own individual recording times. Trying to stay loose while resting a pair of headphones around his neck, Chris talks to Jackie about the specifications of the recording process.

JACKIE

...So this is how you guys do it? I mean, you don't just get together and

play all at once like you do on stage?

CHRIS

Sometimes we do, but not always.

JACKIE

Hmm. Why not?

CHRIS

Because studio recordings, especially on this level, are usually done on multiple tracks.

JACKIE

That's interesting. How many tracks does it take?

CHRIS

It varies. Ideally, you want to record on fewer tracks because then it doesn't take as long to get your song down and a lot of bands like to try and record together whenever possible so there's less chance of losing the "feel" of the song - you know, that drive, that momentum, that comes with a band playing together as one unit. But with Eddie producing us, especially with his reputation for wanting to make sure every aspect is done correctly, we've opted to break it down pretty meticulously, especially with this being our first single, and the fact that it's being released by a major label, you know? We want to make sure we get everything right.

JACKIE

Are you guys always gonna do it this way?

CHRIS

Probably not. Hopefully not, anyway. In the interest of time, that is. We'd most likely get the recordings done faster that way, plus, even though we like being able to go through everything detail by detail, we're also confident enough in ourselves as

a band that we know we can keep the one-unit feel, even playing together in the studio. It helps us as musicians.

JACKIE

That's really cool. (She looks around)
So then, once you start getting ready to record, I'll just go into the control room?

CHRIS

Yeah. If you don't mind. I mean, you can do whatever you want, you know? You can just go hang out on the couch in the control room or you don't even have to stay here in the studio. It is nice having you here, but I don't want you to feel like a prisoner, either.

JACKIE

(Laughing)
A prisoner?

CHRIS

(Also laughing)
Yeah. Well, I don't know. Maybe that was the wrong word. Not like, a prisoner. I just, you know, don't want you to think you absolutely have to be here with us, going wherever we go and doing whatever we do.

JACKIE

Well, isn't that why I came along? To be a part of this?

CHRIS

Yeah.

JACKIE

So, that's why I've been going everywhere you go and doing everything you do. Why, do you not want me to spend so much time with you guys?

CHRIS

Are you kidding? I need you to. You're my muse, remember? I just don't want you to think you don't have a choice.

JACKIE

Well, of course I know I have a choice. And I've made that choice.
(She smiles) I am here to be your muse.

CHRIS

(Smiling back)

Good. Because you inspire me like no one else.

JACKIE

(After another sweet smile and a momentary pause)

That's good to know. (She pauses again before continuing a moment later)
Although, there is one request I do have.

CHRIS

What's that?

JACKIE

Since you and I met and this...thing the two of us have going on actually got started, we have spent a lot of really interesting time together...

CHRIS

Okay...

JACKIE

But there is one thing we haven't done yet.

CHRIS

What?

JACKIE

You have not taken me out on a proper date.

CHRIS

(Thinking about it for a second)

You know...you're right.

JACKIE

(With a smile of self-satisfaction)

I know I am.

CHRIS

Well, I think we're just gonna have to fix that.

JACKIE

I agree.

CHRIS

So what did you have in mind?

JACKIE

Oh, I'm an old-fashioned girl. I mean, I can hold my own as well as any woman but I also love chivalry, I love romance, I love being treated like a lady by a man who knows how to be a gentleman.

CHRIS

That's good, because I believe in treating a lady...like a lady. It just doesn't seem right not to.

JACKIE

Good. That's very good to know. So then, I will leave it up to you to decide what we're going to do tonight.

CHRIS

(As he and Jackie see Eddie signaling that they're about ready)

All right then.

JACKIE

(Turning back for one second as she starts to head into the control room)

Oh, and Chris-

CHRIS

(Just as he prepares to put the headphones on and step up to the microphone)

Yes?

JACKIE

(With another, almost mischievous smile)

-I'm expecting to be swept off my feet.

As Chris smiles back at Jackie again then puts his headphones on, Jackie heads into the control room while Eddie and the engineers prepare for the first take on Chris' track.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - LOEWS HOLLYWOOD HOTEL, LOS ANGELES

Later on that night, Jackie is standing just inside the main entrance to the Loews Hollywood Hotel, where everyone is staying. Looking beautiful in a comfortable evening dress that hugs her figure, she looks around, as if she's waiting for something. Just then, Dina comes walking through the door.

DINA

(As she and Jackie notice each other)

Hey.

JACKIE

Hey Dina. What are you up to?

DINA

Greg's upstairs in the room working on a new song, so I decided to go for a walk. You look nice. Where are you off to?

JACKIE

Well...I don't know.

DINA

(Surprised)

You don't know? You're standing here in an evening dress and you don't know where you're going?

JACKIE

(Trying to clarify)

Well, I'm waiting. Chris and I are supposed to be going out on our first actual date tonight.

DINA

Wow, that's nice.

JACKIE

Yeah, I'm looking forward to it. (She smiles) I told him I want to be swept off my feet.

DINA

That's cool. I basically told Greg the same thing when we first got together.

JACKIE

And did he do it?

DINA

(Smiling as she remembers)

Yeah, I have to admit, he did. It was during the summer and he surprised me with a picnic by a lake in Saturday Crossing that I grew up swimming in. It's a beautiful area, especially that time of year. So he bought us lunch from my favorite deli and had everything set up by the time we got there.

JACKIE

That sounds really nice.

DINA

It was. He had my favorite song playing on the radio and with the way the early afternoon sun was shining on the area, it made everything look like a dream.

JACKIE

Wow. Sounds like he really knew how to get your attention.

DINA

He absolutely did. Still does, actually. That's one of the reasons why we've been together for so long.

JACKIE

That's great. You guys do seem like you're pretty happy together.

DINA

We are.

JACKIE

What song was he playing? You said he was playing your favorite song. What was it?

DINA

"Waiting For A Girl Like You."

JACKIE

Foreigner. Good choice. I love Journey and "Faithfully" is my favorite song, but I've also always liked Foreigner and "Waiting For A Girl Like You" is just amazing.

DINA

Oh yeah, I've always loved it.

JACKIE

And Greg knew that...

DINA

Yes he did. That's one of the things that really showed me he was for real. Because he knew me, you know? (She smiles) It showed he was paying attention.

JACKIE

(Smiling as well)

That's good. Greg seems like a good guy.

DINA

He is. (She thinks for a moment) They're all good guys, actually. Chris, Greg and Simon. Even Mike, once we established ourselves as a band and he came on to manage us. We've been able to handle each other for so many years because we're all friends and we all respect each other.

JACKIE

It's great that you can all have that bond. That you all know each other like that.

DINA

Yeah, it is. (She thinks for a moment) And now we have you.

JACKIE

Yeah. Well, sort of. (She laughs) I'm just kinda here.

DINA

What, are you kidding? You're more than just here. Seriously, Jackie. I can tell just by looking at Chris whenever you guys are around each other that you really mean something to him.

JACKIE

I hope so. Because he means a lot to me.

DINA

I know he does. (Jackie looks at Dina and smiles subtly, as Dina smiles back as well) I can see that also. I mean, seriously, you guys go make it kind of obvious.

JACKIE

(Laughing at Dina's comment)
Yeah, I guess we do. (She looks around) Although, I'm not exactly sure where he is now.

DINA

Did he tell you he'd meet you here?

JACKIE

Yeah. About two hours ago, he told me he was running out but for me to be down here and ready at around eight. He said or me to dress formal.

DINA

Well, it's about seven minutes after eight right now.

Just then, Chris walks in, dressed in a classy blue suit and tie. Immediately, he walks up to Jackie and Dina.

CHRIS

Good evening, ladies.

DINA

Wow, look at you. (She laughs) I'm not used to seeing this side of you.

CHRIS

(Also laughing)
Yeah, I know. I don't dress like this

too often.

JACKIE

(Obviously impressed)

Well, you look great.

CHRIS

Thanks, but this is not great. This is me cleaning up nicely. Now you...you look great. Actually, I'd say amazing.

JACKIE

(Smiling shyly at Chris' compliment)

Thank you.

DINA

Well, you guys obviously have an incredible night ahead of you, so I'm gonna head back upstairs.

CHRIS

Okay, Dina.

JACKIE

It was great talking to you, Dina. We'll have to get together sometime, you know? Like a girl's night or something.

DINA

Absolutely. (She smiles) I think our guys can look after themselves for one night.

JACKIE

(Looking at Chris, then back at Dina)

Yeah, I think you're right. They should be okay for one night.

CHRIS

(Smiling confidently)

I'm sure we'll be fine.

DINA

(Also smiling as she starts to head toward the elevator)

Yeah, okay. Well, you guys have a nice time.

CHRIS

(As he begins to escort Jackie toward the front doors of the hotel)

We will.

Moments later, Chris and Jackie head outside and Jackie is surprised to see a beautiful, black, late model, Cadillac XLR convertible parked in front of them with its top down. Even more surprising is when Chris escorts her over to it and opens the passenger-side door for her.

JACKIE

Wow, Chris. This is a beautiful car.

CHRIS

(Slightly proud of himself)

Thank you. I wanted to make sure I found something that was the right amount of performance and the right amount of class.

JACKIE

(With a smile)

Well, this is very impressive. Is it yours? I mean, did you buy it?

CHRIS

(As Jackie sits down in the passenger seat and Chris shuts the door, then begins to head around to the driver's side)

No, this is a rental. I don't live here yet and the band's contract is brand new so I didn't just want to run out and buy something as extravagant as a Caddy, but for tonight, I thought it would be appropriate, considering everything I have planned.

JACKIE

(As Chris gets into the driver's seat)

Everything you have planned, huh?

CHRIS

(With a smile)

That's right.

JACKIE

And just what exactly might that be?

CHRIS

(As he turns the engine on and the car hums as smoothly as a summer breeze)

Well, if I told you, then it wouldn't be a surprise, now would it?

JACKIE

(With yet another smile, obviously loving the effort Chris is making)

That's a good point. So then, might I at least ask where this night is taking us?

CHRIS

(Turning and looking at Jackie with his hands on the wheel)

To the stars.

With that, Chris and Jackie take off into the Hollywood night, with Jackie barely able to wait to find out whatever it is Chris has planned.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - THE GRIFFITH OBSERVATORY, LOS ANGELES

A little bit later on, As Chris and Jackie arrive at the Griffith Observatory, Jackie is definitely surprised.

JACKIE

Okay, Chris. This is a surprise. And I get it now, to the stars. Clever.

CHRIS

Thanks. I know it was kind of a cheesy line, but, I mean, was I wrong?

JACKIE

(As Chris parks the car and gets out, making his way over to Jackie's side and opening her door)

No, you weren't wrong. (She steps out as he holds the door open, then shuts it behind her) Thanks. (She looks at the observatory) So, what are we gonna be doing here? I mean, besides look at the stars.

CHRIS

(As the two of them start walking
toward the main entrance)
Oh, you'd be surprised. There's more
to do here than just look at the
stars. It's a pretty cool place.

JACKIE

Have you been here before?

CHRIS

Yeah. I was here earlier to get this
evening set up.

JACKIE

Oh, okay. That's cool. So, what are we
gonna be doing?

CHRIS

(As they get to the main entrance,
with Chris politely opening the
door for Jackie)
You'll see.

A short time later, after Chris and Jackie make their way up
to the terrace of the observatory, Jackie is astounded at the
incredible view of the L.A. city lights and the Hollywood
sign that are clearly visible from the terrace.

JACKIE

Wow, Chris. This view is...incredible.

CHRIS

Yeah, it's definitely something.

Just then, Jackie looks around and notices that only she,
Chris and a serving staff are out on the terrace, with a
single table prepared to host a romantic dinner for two.

JACKIE

(With a smile)
Okay, I admit it. You've swept me off
my feet.

CHRIS

(With a bit of a surprised laugh
as he escorts Jackie to her seat
at the table)
That didn't take long. We haven't even
eaten yet.

JACKIE

(As Chris pulls her chair out and she sits down)

Well Chris, you need to understand, I've never been on a date...even close to something like this.

CHRIS

(As he heads to his sit and sits)

Good. So you'll definitely remember this then.

JACKIE

Yeah...I definitely will remember this.

Just then, a server comes to their table with a bottle of champagne.

CHRIS

Would you like a drink?

JACKIE

Sure, thanks. (The server begins to pour, first in Jackie's glass, then in Chris') Wow, champagne. Nice. So what are we celebrating?

CHRIS

Us. (He motions all around them) This. Everything that's happening to us right now.

JACKIE

(As she raises her glass)

Okay. Well, you're right. This is cause for celebration. What should we toast to?

CHRIS

(As he raises his glass)

Let's toast to...this next step in life. I'd say it's a pretty big one, wouldn't you?

JACKIE

Absolutely. To the next step.

As the two of them make their toast, then drink, Jackie turns and looks out at the view again.

CHRIS

It's hard to ignore, isn't it?

JACKIE

Yeah, it is. It's like...well, the possibilities that exist in both our lives right now. Because even though I am here to be your muse (They both smile at her comment), at the same time, I am also an actress. And look where we are. Look at everything that's happening. The potential opportunities...just like this view. It's as if they go on forever.

CHRIS

(As he also looks at the view)
You're right. It's amazing to even think about, really. (He turns and looks back at Jackie) And you know, I think it's safe for me to say now that...I couldn't be happier to be here, sharing this moment with you.

For the next few moments, Jackie and Chris share one more look, one more smile, before ordering their meal...and continuing on to their future.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - THE SOUND STAGE FOR THE "PERFECT STORM"
MUSIC VIDEO SET

Some time down the road, after Chris and Jackie's date solidified their relationship, Jackie, Mike Soriello and Odyssey are on the set of the powerfully-themed music video for "Perfect Storm." During a break from shooting, Chris and Jackie sit together with Mike and the rest of the band, discussing the experience of shooting their first video as it's been so far, when the video's director, Ron Porter, makes his way over to the group.

RON

Okay everyone, we're making good time here. So far, we're actually running a little ahead of schedule, so if we can stay on this track, it'll also help a lot when we go into post.

MIKE

Perfect. So, how much longer do you

think the actual filming is gonna take?

RON

Oh, not long at all. We've already gotten a lot of great footage so I'd say, maybe another couple of days, if that.

MIKE

That's good. Because I was actually talking to Eddie a little while ago and Capitol is very eager to get the first tour started. "Perfect Storm" is flying up the charts. (He looks at the band) So congratulations, guys. You have your first hit single.

CHRIS

(As Jackie and the rest of the band members are clearly happy with the news)

That's awesome. When do they want us to head out?

MIKE

As soon as possible. Even the album is already starting to make a big splash, with advance orders and everything, so Capitol wants to strike while the iron is hot, you know?

DINA

What's the name of the tour gonna be?

MIKE

Same as the album. "Cover To Cover."

SIMON

The "Cover To Cover" tour. I like that.

RON

So do I. It's a good name, for the tour and the album. What's it mean, anything in particular?

CHRIS

It's got a couple of meanings, actually. It kind of addresses the

fact that with this being our debut, it's also our first entirely original album, you know, original stuff from cover to cover, while also referencing the fact that we started out as a cover band in Saturday Crossing.

RON

Cool, it's a good name. When you guys did covers, did you like, specifically focus on any one band or was it just general stuff?

GREG

It was all classic stuff that we grew up with. We love the originals like Chuck Berry and Elvis, Buddy Holly, Bill Haley and all that. And there has also been a lot of good stuff from the past decade and a half like Pearl Jam, Alice In Chains, Foo Fighters, The Offspring, STP, Bush, Live, Three Days Grace, ect. But most of our serious influences have been from the 60s, 70s and 80s. You know, The Beatles, The Stones, Cream, The Yardbirds, Hendrix, Pink Floyd, The Who, Zeppelin, Boston, Suzi Quatro, The Runaways, Jethro Tull, Van Halen, um...Elton John, Skynyrd, Kansas, Bob Seger, Fleetwood Mac...

CHRIS

...Rod Stewart, Queen, Bowie, Genesis, Clapton, Billy Joel, The Police, Ramones, Springsteen, The Doors, Metallica, Ronnie James Dio, Motorhead, AC/DC...

SIMON

...Guns N' Roses, REO Speedwagon, Foreigner, Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers, Slade, ZZ Top, Def Leppard, Twisted Sister, U2...

DINA

...Rush, KISS, Jeff Beck, Cheap Trick, Jackson Browne, Dire Straits, The Clash, Meat Loaf, Supertramp, Journey, The Kinks, Europe, Aerosmith...I mean,

the list just keeps going, you know?
Lots of great music.

RON

That is so cool. I grew up listening to that stuff as well, actually. You just can't beat it. Are you gonna play any of it on the tour?

DINA

Yeah, we're planning on it. In fact, Capitol said they're gonna try and get us some opportunities to actually play with some of the bands we've covered while we're on the tour.

RON

Man, that sounds incredible.

CHRIS

Yeah, it does. We're really looking forward to it.

RON

I don't blame you. (He looks at the time) And on that note, we'd better get this video done. If everything is starting to pick up speed for you guys like this, Capitol's gonna want this video ready to go like, yesterday.

CHRIS

(As everyone heads to their places again)

Okay, here we go.

Just then, as Jackie gives Chris a kiss of encouragement, Ron turns to them.

RON

Hey, sorry to interrupt you guys...

CHRIS

...Not a problem, Ron. What's up?

RON

...Actually, Jackie, I wanted to ask you something. You're an actress, right?

JACKIE

(Pleasantly surprised by Ron's question as she answers with a bit of modestly sarcastic humor)
Well, I try.

RON

Okay...the reason I ask is, after this video is done, I'm gonna be shooting a major movie that's based on one of my own scripts and I think you might actually be really good in one of the main roles.

JACKIE

(Now very surprised)
What...seriously?!

RON

Yes. Would you be interested in reading for it?

JACKIE

Absolutely...I mean, as long as, Chris, you guys don't have any problems with it.

CHRIS

(Surprised by Jackie's comment)
Why would any of us have a problem with it?

JACKIE

Well, you know...I came here with you guys, for inspiration and all. Remember?

CHRIS

(Loving her devotion, but really wanting her to take advantage of the opportunity)
Are you kidding? Jackie, we love having you here with us and believe me, at this point, I'm inspired just thinking about you, even when we're not around each other. But this...this is YOUR dream. This opportunity is something you have always wanted. Trust me, not only can I speak for the band in saying that we are all 100% behind you on this, but I myself would

love to see you go for it.

JACKIE

(Obviously happy to have Chris' support)

Wow. Well, Okay then. (She turns to Ron) Okay, Mr. Porter.

RON

Oh; just call me Ron. Ron is fine.

JACKIE

(As Chris is clearly happy for her to be getting this exciting chance)

Okay Ron, well, thank you. I'd be happy to read for it.

RON

Awesome. Okay then...(He hands her his business card) Come to my office at that address tomorrow morning at nine. (He looks at Chris) You can be there if you want to as well, Chris. You know, if you wanted to like, provide her with moral support or whatever you guys do.

CHRIS

Thanks, Odyssey has a photo shoot at around the same time, though. But Jackie knows that she has my full support. (He looks at her as she smiles with appreciation for his comment) And I have no doubt you're gonna be great.

JACKIE

(As Ron heads over to continue shooting the video)

Thank you, Chris. I really appreciate that, you have no idea how much. But you'd better get moving. You guys have to finish this thing up.

CHRIS

(As he starts to head over as well, smiling as he goes)

Yes, absolutely. I'll talk to you in a bit.

JACKIE
(Returning the smile)
I'll be here.

As the band continues shooting, Jackie sits there watching them and thinking about how amazing, almost overwhelming, everything is that's happening at that moment in their lives.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - RON PORTER'S OFFICE, LOS ANGELES, CA

The following morning, as Jackie arrives at the office of Ron's production company, Fireworld Pictures, she is immediately greeted by his receptionist.

RECEPTIONIST
Hi, can I help you?

JACKIE
(Slightly nervous)
Um, yes. I'm supposed to read for a part-

RECEPTIONIST
-Yes, Jackie. Right? Jackie Lyons?

JACKIE
Yes, that's right.

RECEPTIONIST
Ron is expecting you. (She motions toward a hallway on the left-hand side just in back of where she's sitting)
You can go ahead back.

JACKIE
(As she heads toward the hallway)
Thanks.

A minute later, as Jackie heads down the hallway, Ron comes walking out of his office to meet her.

RON
Jackie, hi. Good to see you, again.

JACKIE
Hey Ron, thanks. Good to see you too.

RON
So, you all set to go?

JACKIE
Absolutely.

RON
(After a momentary pause as the
two of them make their way
further down the hall)
You nervous?

JACKIE
In all honesty, yeah. A little bit.
But I think, probably more excited
than nervous. I'm really thrilled to
have this opportunity. Seriously,
thank you again.

RON
Oh, not a problem. Believe me, if this
all works out as I'm hoping, I'll
probably be the one thanking you.

JACKIE
(With a bit of a chuckle)
Okay. Well, you're welcome in advance.

RON
(With a smile, as the two of them
enter a room at the end of the
hall)
I like that confidence.

JACKIE
Thanks. I've never found too much
reason for doubt unless it's
absolutely warranted.

RON
That's a good attitude to have.

As the two of them enter the room, Ron's co-producer, Jay
Miles, is sitting on a comfortable-looking couch, working on
his laptop. A second later, he closes the laptop and stands
up, extending his hand toward Jackie.

JAY
Jackie, I'm Jay Miles, Ron's co-
producer. It's a pleasure to meet you.

JACKIE
(As she shakes hands with Jay)
It's a pleasure to meet you as well,

Mr. Miles.

JAY

(As he and Ron sit down on the couch after Ron hands Jackie a written scene from the script)
Please, call me Jay. (He grabs his own copy of the scene, as does Ron, and proceeds to ask Jackie a couple of questions before having her read.)
Okay Jackie, if I may ask, do you watch a lot of movies?

JACKIE

Um...sometimes. (She smiles) I guess it all depends on what kind of mood I'm in, how much time I have. But overall, yeah, I'd say I've seen a pretty decent amount.

JAY

Okay. What kind of movies do you usually like to watch?

JACKIE

Anything that seems interesting.

JAY

Any particular genres over others?

JACKIE

Well, I do like romance, especially romantic comedies. But I also like riveting movies as well, you know? Mysteries or thrillers, even science fiction, as long as there's a really good story.

JAY

Okay. (He looks at his copy of the scene for a moment, then back at Jackie) How much do you know about this movie?

JACKIE

What, the one I'm reading for?

JAY

Yeah.

JACKIE

All I know is that it's something Ron wrote.

RON

(After a momentary pause)

Okay. Well, that video we're shooting right now with Odyssey?

JACKIE

Perfect Storm.

RON

Yeah. That's not my first music video. Actually, shooting music videos is how I got started. Then after a while, I took advantage of the business I was getting and started making movies as well. This one here is my third feature.

JACKIE

That's awesome, Ron. Seems like you're really in your element here.

RON

Oh, I am. I love making videos and movies. I always have. And at the same time, I also love music - although, I'm definitely more of a filmmaker than a musician (He laughs). Yeah, I'm a big fan of music, especially rock, which is why I love shooting videos like Perfect Storm. But the thing about music is that I don't just simply enjoy listening to it. It also inspires me - especially my work. And that's where this script here came from.

JACKIE

(Intrigued)

Really?

RON

Yeah. See, it's about a future where natural disasters have decimated much of the global population, and most of the people who remain are oppressed by a worldwide government that has taken society by force and claims to be

preserving the future of humanity by strictly dictating what types of communication and cultural expression are allowed to exist. I guess you could say it's in the same vein as classic dystopian stories like 1984 or Fahrenheit 451.

JACKIE

(Impressed by the story)
Yeah, I was thinking that. But wow, that is actually a really interesting story. I like it.

RON

Thanks. (He looks at his copy of the scene) Now, the part you're reading for is the character of Mindy Brooks. Mindy is a woman in her early thirties who becomes a key member of the International Liberation Front, a resistance against this worldwide government, after her husband Paul, who was not a member of the ILF but was making a name for himself as an underground musician, is killed by a government-ordered missile attack on the pirate radio station where he was giving an interview. In this scene, Mindy, who is a photographer and was also at the station when it was attacked but survived, has been detained by government forces and is being given a choice - either go to work for the government doing propaganda photos, or face life in prison for the simple fact that she was found in association with a non-sanctioned radio station. So, if you could just pick up right at her line there at the top of the first page, that's where she responds to their ultimatum. Go ahead:

JACKIE

(Reading as Mindy as she looks back and forth at her lines on the page)
You...want me to what?! (She looks around in disbelief) You're seriously

asking me to do this?! You killed my husband tonight! How could you even THINK...I...I don't believe this. (She becomes very indignant, with her eyes tearing up in anger) Let me tell you something...my husband loved his music. It flowed through him like blood in his veins, and all he wanted to do was share it with people. It was a gift, you understand? Not some ridiculous violation of "policy" like you people try to say. It was his God-given purpose; the very reason why he was born! (Tears start streaming down her face as she becomes infuriated) He was a good man...and he loved me. (She then shakes her head slowly and looks ahead in a lost, cold stare with tears still falling from her eyes) We were going to have a family. Children, and he was going to teach them how to play music like he did. It would have been beautiful. (She straightens up and wipes her eyes) Because that's what Paul was. He was beautiful. And you may have taken him away, but his beauty will live on. Because I will remember him - and so will his fans. Everyone who knew him, everyone who loved his music. We'll all remember him. So I will not defile his memory, his legacy, by doing your dirty work! You can find yourself another photographer. And if you don't like that, too bad! Because I honestly couldn't care less!

As Jackie finishes reading her lines, she wipes her eyes again and smiles at Ron and Jay, who are both looking at her, trying to be professional, but having trouble hiding their sheer amazement.

JACKIE

Was that okay?

RON

(After a moment)

That...um...that was...

JAY

Jackie...the line ended at, "He was a good man and he loved me."

JACKIE

I know, I'm sorry. I just...I felt like she had more to say.

RON

(As he and Jay stand up)
Well apparently, you were right. I'm gonna be honest with you, Jackie. That was incredible.

JACKIE

(Very excited)
Seriously?!

RON

Seriously. I think I can truly say that was the best audition we've had for any role in this movie so far.

JACKIE

(Obviously flattered and pleasantly surprised)
Wow, well...that's great.

RON

That's more than great, Jackie. I think you're perfect for this role.
(He turns to Jay) What do you think?

JAY

I agree 100%

RON

(Turning back to Jackie)
Okay then. (He smiles)
Congratulations. You got the part.

JACKIE

(Very excited)
Wow, oh, thank you so much.

RON

No, thank you. You did a great job and now one of the biggest roles in the movie is cast.

JACKIE

Okay, so, what do I do now?

RON

Now, we get you an agent. I mean, you have the role. But the agent will help guide you through all the ins and outs of the paperwork and everything else.

JACKIE

Great. Anyone specific I should go to?

RON

Well, normally, it wouldn't be that easy. It's almost as hard to get an agent as it is to find your breakout role in this town.

JACKIE

Okay...

RON

(Handing Jackie a business card)
But, this is the card of a woman named Megan Wagner. She's actually one of the more prominent talent agents here, as well as being an old friend of mine in the business. If you get in touch with her and tell her that I referred you and that I'm casting you as the female lead in my next feature but you need representation, she'll get you set up and we'll go from there.

JACKIE

(As she takes the card and puts it in her purse)
Okay, great. Um, should I call her or just like, go to her office?

RON

Go to her office.

JACKIE

Okay.

RON

Yeah, you're going there with a specific referral so it'll be faster if you just stop in personally.

JACKIE
Any particular time?

RON
I'd say this afternoon. She's usually busier in the mornings so even though she's busy in the afternoon as well, it's not usually as much so you'll probably have a better chance at getting to sit down with her and get everything done today if you go after lunch.

JACKIE
(As she heads out the door and toward the hallway that takes her back to the front entrance of the office)
Okay, great. Thank you again, Ron. So, so much, thank you.

RON
Not a problem at all. We look forward to working with you.

JACKIE
I look forward to it as well. I'm really excited about this.

RON
(Smiling, happy that everything is working out so nicely)
So are we. See you soon.

With that, Jackie leaves, totally beside herself about everything that's happening.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - LOEWS HOLLYWOOD HOTEL, LOS ANGELES

A few hours later, Odyssey returns to the hotel from their photo shoot. Making their way up to their rooms, they quickly discuss plans for the rest of the day.

DINA
Have you heard anything from Jackie yet?

CHRIS
No.

GREG

I wonder how long the audition went on for.

CHRIS

I don't know. I guess it would all depend on how many people are also going for the part.

MIKE

Okay, well, How about if we all go into our rooms and change or whatever we have to do, then we'll meet out here in about thirty minutes and go for lunch?

CHRIS

Sounds good to me.

MIKE

We all good with that?

SIMON

I am.

GREG

So are we.

MIKE

Okay then. See you all in a little bit.

As the group disperses and heads into their rooms, Chris is surprised to walk into his room and find Jackie sitting there at the desk that's located next to the TV.

CHRIS

Wow, hey there. You're back.

JACKIE

(Obviously trying to contain her excitement)
Yes, I am back.

CHRIS

So, how'd the audition go?

JACKIE

How'd it go...okay, well, they were so impressed with my audition that they actually gave me the part right there

-

and it`s one of the biggest roles in the movie.

CHRIS

Wow, that`s great! (He gives her a hug, lifting her off the floor)
Congratulations. Man, you must be excited.

JACKIE

That doesn`t even begin to describe it.

CHRIS

So what do you do next? Like, do you start shooting soon or what?

JACKIE

No, not yet. I have to go this afternoon and meet this woman, an agent. Megan Wagner. Someone Ron knows.

CHRIS

Okay. So, what, is she gonna sign you or something?

JACKIE

I think so. Ron said I have to tell her he sent me to see her and I'm gonna be in his movie and I need representation and all. He said she's gonna get me set up.

CHRIS

Wow, that's great.

JACKIE

Yeah, I'm definitely thrilled.

CHRIS

Me too, I have to admit. Wow, we sign a record deal and you get cast in a movie...AND it looks like you're gonna be getting an agent. It's like everything is just...panning out for all of us here, you know?

JACKIE
(With a slight but obvious
expression of concern)
Yeah, that it does.

CHRIS
(Noticing her concern)
What's the matter?

JACKIE
(Trying to dismiss it)
Nothing.

CHRIS
You sure?

JACKIE
(Giving Chris another hug)
Yeah, I'm sure.

CHRIS
(Reciprocating the hug)
Okay. I hope so.

JACKIE
Oh yeah. I'm fine. (She smiles as she
looks at him) More than fine.

CHRIS
(As he looks back)
Good. Because you should be. This
is...huge.

JACKIE
I know. And you know what else?

CHRIS
What?

JACKIE
I don't think this would've happened
if it hadn't been for you.

CHRIS
(Surprised)
For me?!

JACKIE
Yeah.

CHRIS
How do you figure that?

JACKIE
Well, think about it. If you and I
hadn't met, I wouldn't have come down
here and this opportunity would've
probably gone to someone else.

CHRIS
I don't know. In all honesty, as
talented and beautiful as you
are...even if you hadn't been here for
this particular opportunity, I have no
doubt that one just as big would've
come up sooner or later.

JACKIE
(After thinking about it for a
moment)
You really think so?

CHRIS
I have no doubt.

After a momentary pause as the two of them look into each
other's eyes, they share a kiss that reflects the same
passion that's driving the creativity which has been leading
to so much success for the both of them recently.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - MEGAN WAGNER'S OFFICE, LOS ANGELES

That afternoon, Jackie arrives at the building of the Wagner
Group, hoping that this meeting will go as well as he last
one earlier that day. Immediately, she walks through the
front door and is greeted by another receptionist.

RECEPTIONIST #2
Hi, can I help you?

JACKIE
Yes, I'm here to see Megan Wagner.

RECEPTIONIST #2
Is she expecting you?

JACKIE
Um...I'm not sure, actually. But Ron
Porter sent me over.

RECEPTIONIST #2
Ron sent you?

JACKIE
Yes. I'm gonna be in his new movie and
he sent me over here because I need
representation.

RECEPTIONIST #2
Oh, okay. That's great. Well,
congratulations.

JACKIE
Thank you.

RECEPTIONIST #2
Just give me one sec. (She motions
toward a seat over near some magazines
in the waiting room) You can just have
a seat right over there.

JACKIE
Thanks.

As the receptionist heads back through a doorway, also down a hall similar to the way Ron Porter's office is set up, Jackie takes a seat and looks around a bit. Noticing the various industry-related awards adorning the walls, Jackie can't help but be impressed by the quality of work that seems to be done at this agency. Just then, a woman, attractive and professional, seemingly in her mid-forties or so, comes walking out of the back hallway into the waiting room and approaches Jackie. Jackie knows right away that it's Megan Wagner.

MEGAN
(As she walks up to Jackie and
extends to shake hands)
Hi, how are you? I'm Megan Wagner.

JACKIE
(Standing up to shake hands with
Megan)
Hi, I'm Jackie Lyons.

MEGAN
It's nice to meet you.

JACKIE
You as well.

MEGAN

So, Ronny Porter sent you over, huh?

JACKIE

Yes. He just cast me in one of the main roles of his new movie.

MEGAN

That's great. You must be thrilled.

JACKIE

(Laughs)

I think that's an understatement.

MEGAN

Yeah, scoring a big role in a movie like that is always exciting. So, what did Ron tell you?

JACKIE

Just to come here and tell you that I was cast in the role and that I need representation.

MEGAN

Okay. Well why don't you come on back to my office and we'll discuss everything?

JACKIE

(As she and Megan head back to Megan's office)

Great.

A few minutes later, the two of them enter Megan's office.

MEGAN

(Motioning toward a chair in front of her desk as she sits in her own seat behind the desk)

Please, sit down.

JACKIE

(As she sits down)

Thanks. (She looks around, noticing Megan's obviously expensive desk and state-of-the-art office equipment)
This is a nice office.

MEGAN

Thank you. (She also looks around) It

comes from years of meeting a lot of different people and learning how this crazy industry works.

JACKIE

I'll bet.

MEGAN

So, tell me a little about yourself, Jackie.

JACKIE

Well, I've really just been in L.A. a short time. I actually live in a town called, "Saturday Crossing."

MEGAN

"Saturday Crossing," huh? That's an interesting name. So what brought you here?

JACKIE

Well, that's kind of an interesting story in itself. I got together with a musician from Saturday Crossing who had a band and they actually had this big show the night he and I met. So apparently, our meeting inspired him to write this really incredible song called, "Perfect Storm," that his band played in the show and it ended up getting them signed with Capitol Records. Actually, the record company sent Eddie Wilson himself, who's producing the band, to come see them play and make all the proper arrangements.

MEGAN

(Genuinely impressed)

Wow, seriously?

JACKIE

Honestly, no lie. So anyway, as everyone was getting ready to fly here, they all decided that my having inspired Chris to write Perfect Storm was an important enough reason for me to join them here, you know? (She smiles) Like, with me being his muse,

as he keeps telling me.

MEGAN

(Totally engrossed in Jackie's story)

Yeah...

JACKIE

..So before I knew it, here we were, flying to L.A., the band officially signing with Capitol, then we're on the set of the video for Perfect Storm, which Ron Porter was directing, and he offered me the chance to audition for this role in his new movie. Well, even though I work in finance, my passion is actually acting so I took the opportunity, apparently nailed the audition, and here I am.

MEGAN

(Tremendously impressed)

Well, I just have to say, that story alone could be a movie. I mean, seriously. That's just...incredible. And you know what the best part about it is?

JACKIE

What?

MEGAN

It's true.

JACKIE

That's right. Every word.

MEGAN

And on top of that, you're still living it. I mean, even as we sit here and speak, it's being written, right now.

JACKIE

You're right, it is.

MEGAN

So what I want to know is, what comes next?

JACKIE

(After thinking for a moment)
I don't know. I think I need your help
to write that part.

MEGAN

You know, you're right. I mean, after
all, this is our scene, right?

JACKIE

Yes it is.

MEGAN

(Thinking)
Well...I think what should come next
is...I sign you for representation
with the Wagner Agency, because I like
you, Ron obviously feels you have the
talent to make it here, otherwise he
wouldn't have cast you, and I've known
him for a long time so I trust his
judgment. And of course, with you
being a working Hollywood actor now,
you do need representation.

JACKIE

(Trying, but struggling, to
contain her excitement)
Oh, wow, seriously, Thank you very
much Ms. Wagner.

MEGAN

Oh, honey, please, call me Megan.

JACKIE

Okay, Megan. I just...can't tell you
how exciting this is.

MEGAN

(Laughing with appreciation)
You don't have to tell me. Like I
said, I've been in this business a
long time so I've seen it before. And
you know what? I am very happy for
you, because this is a big opportunity
and if your passion is acting like you
said, then I know you can really
appreciate the...career magnitude of
what's happening here.

JACKIE

Oh, I believe me. I most certainly get it.

MEGAN

That's good.

JACKIE

So what happens now?

MEGAN

Now, I am going to finalize your signing here, then I'm going to get in touch with Ron and tell him that I represent you, then he and I will discuss all the details of your casting, your pay for the role, and I will be in touch with you shortly to lay out the terms and get everything tied down. Sound good?

JACKIE

(Very excited)

Sounds great.

With that, Megan begins pulling up printouts on her computer as she and Jackie prepare to make the Wagner Agency's representation of Jackie official.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - NICKY'S OCEANSIDE GRILL, LONG BEACH

As the members of Odyssey, Mike Soriello, Jackie and Eddie Wilson all sit at a large table in a neighborhood-style grill right near the ocean in Long Beach, they enjoy a big dinner of burgers, sandwiches, chicken and the like. As they eat, they also discuss the band's current schedule, which is rapidly approaching what all of them have really been looking forward to - the start of their first tour.

EDDIE

So, how do you guys like the place?

CHRIS

It's incredible. Seriously. This is some of the best food I've had in a long time. And we have some nice places in Saturday Crossing. but this...this is something to remember.

EDDIE

Yeah, this is my favorite restaurant in the whole city. I mean, there are a lot of swanky places and tourist destinations, plus of course, you got the fast food joints and the local spots and all that...and a lot of it's good. Some of its really good. But this place is something. I think what helps me like it so much is the fact that the guy who owns it is a Jersey kid like me.

SIMON

Really? New Jersey, huh? What brought him out here?

EDDIE

He got tired of the winters and had worked as a cook in Jersey doing the same kind of thing. But after saving up for a long time, he came out here and invested in this place. Once it opened, it took a little time for word to get around but once it did and people started really getting a taste of what he could do, the place just started filling up and Nicky never looked back.

JACKIE

Good for him. How long has he been out here?

EDDIE

About twelve years.

MIKE

That's awesome. I love hearing those regular-Joe success stories.

EDDIE

Those are the best kind of stories. They're inspiring, you know?

CHRIS

Absolutely. That's why so many of the best songs, best movies, just the best stories are about regular people, underdogs, whatever, trying really hard for a long time and finally, on

one of those fateful days, finally hitting a point when all their efforts pay off.

JACKIE
(To Chris)
Like you guys.

CHRIS
Like you too, Jackie. And you weren't even expecting it.

EDDIE
And that just goes to show why you should always stay sharp. Because whether you're expecting it or not, there's always the chance that it'll happen.

JACKIE
So when are you guys heading out on tour?

DINA
Not long, right Eddie?

EDDIE
That's right. The album is almost done, and Capitol has been getting your dates set up.

JACKIE
How many dates are there?

CHRIS
Quite a few. Coast-to-coast, north and south across the U.S. and southern Canada.

EDDIE
That's right, which reminds me, your first show on the tour is gonna be in Vancouver.

SIMON
That's cool. I've never been to Canada, actually.

EDDIE
It's nice. I lived there for about

twenty years.

GREG

That's right...between your time with the Cruisers and when you started Rock Solid, right??

EDDIE

Yeah. I was in Montreal.

CHRIS

Twenty years is long time. You ever miss it?

EDDIE

Sometimes. But it's okay. I don't have any family there but I do go and visit old friends one in a while.

CHRIS

That's cool that you do that. We're actually gonna be in Montreal on this tour also, right?

EDDIE

That's right. You guys are really gonna bring your sound across the continent. It's a good start, and I really think it's gonna do a lot for your album sales - although, Perfect Storm doesn't seem to be hurting any, either.

MIKE

Yeah, it's number three in the U.S. right now and number five in Canada - and still climbing.

Just then, Jackie gets close to Chris as everyone else continues their conversations.

JACKIE

So, how does it feel to be a rock star?

CHRIS

(With a combination of surreal excitement and humility)
Wow...um, well...honestly...I'm not gonna lie, it feels awesome.

JACKIE
Yeah, I can tell.

CHRIS
You can, huh?

JACKIE
(Laughing)
Yeah. It shows.

CHRIS
(Blushing)
Maybe it does. But hey, you have some
incredible opportunity panning out
here yourself.

JACKIE
(Switching mindsets)
Yeah, I know. I just hope I can handle
it.

CHRIS
(Laughing)
Are you kidding? You're gonna nail it.

JACKIE
(Smiling)
Well thank you for the encouragement.

CHRIS
You don't have to thank me. I just say
it as I see it. You have the talent. I
don't doubt it at all.

At that moment, their conversation is interrupted by Dina.

DINA
So Jackie, you're gonna be around for
our album release party, right? You're
not gonna like, be on location or
anything yet?

JACKIE
No, not yet. We don't head out until
after you guys leave for Vancouver so
I'll be the the party.

DINA
(With a smile)
Good. It wouldn't be the same without
you. (She looks at Chris, then back at

Jackie) I'm sure Chris would agree.

CHRIS

Of course.

JACKIE

Well I guess it's set then. (She looks at Chris and smiles) You officially have a date for the album release party.

CHRIS

...The most beautiful date I could ask for.

DINA

Of course. She's a movie star.

As everyone continues with their dinner and conversation, Jackie thinks about what Dina just said, which definitely gives her a bit of a thrill; even if she won't admit to it.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - ODYSSEY DEBUT ALBUM RELEASE PARTY,
WHISKEY-A-GO-GO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA

As Chris scans the crowded club, he still can't get over how surreal the whole situation is. Just thinking about the fact that everyone is there for them, for this band that he, Dina, Greg and Simon have been in for so many years in their modest town light years away from the spectacle of everything they're embarking on now, creates an electrical thrill in the pit of his stomach that is only matched by the interruption of Jackie walking up and handing him a drink, looking so incredible in her figure-hugging jeans and Odyssey t-shirt that he almost forgets his own thoughts.

JACKIE

(Handing Chris his drink as she holds hers in the other hand)
Here you go.

CHRIS

(Taking the drink)
Thanks.

JACKIE

(As the two of them share a brief smile)

So what's on your mind?

CHRIS

(As he looks out across the club)

Oh...a million things. Really.

JACKIE

Yeah, I can imagine. This is all pretty exciting.

CHRIS

Exciting...thrilling...just unbelievable. (He looks at her) I mean, seriously. Can you believe this is happening to us? Between the band getting signed and the album and the single and now we're going on tour...and of course, you getting cast in Ron's new movie...

JACKIE

It is incredible.

CHRIS

To say the least.

JACKIE

So when are you guys heading up to the stage?

CHRIS

Probably within the next few minutes, actually. You wanna come stand backstage when we play?

JACKIE

Are you kidding? No way. I'm gonna be in the front row with the other screaming fans.

CHRIS

(As he takes a drink)

Oh, okay. (He lowers his drink) Well, in that case, I'd better make sure I look for you in the crowd.

JACKIE

(Turning to stand in front of
Chris, then putting her arms
around him)

I sure hope so. Because I'm gonna be
there, trying to get your attention.

As the two of them share a smile, they each take another
drink, enjoying the atmosphere.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - ODYSSEY DEBUT ALBUM RELEASE PARTY,
WHISKEY-A-GO-GO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA

A short time later, Odyssey takes the stage. True to her
word, Jackie is there in the front row as the band gets ready
to play and Chris looks at Jackie with a smile just before
they start. At that moment, Eddie grabs the mic.

EDDIE

(To the cheering crowd as they all
stand shoulder-to-shoulder before
the stage)

All right, everybody. This is it. (He
gives the crowd a few seconds to
cheer, then continues) Are you ready?!
(Gives them another few seconds, then
continues, even louder) I said, I want
to know...I want to know if you're
ready! (The crowd cheers even louder)
Playing songs from their debut album,
"Cover-To-Cover," here they are...(The
crowd cheers even louder to the
delight of the band, Mike, Jackie and
even Eddie, who cracks a smile at the
immense popularity of his new
proteges) Let's rock and roll! Here we
go! Odyssey!

As the crowd erupts, the bands responds in theatrical glory,
rocking the place with lights, explosions and a setlist
beginning with their electrifying song, "Gather The
Lightning."

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - LOEWS HOLLYWOOD HOTEL, LOS ANGELES

In the lobby of the hotel, Jackie and Chris talk as they and
the rest of the band carry their luggage out to the band's

new tour bus.

JACKIE
So, you excited?

CHRIS
(Clearly trying to contain his
enthusiasm)
"Excited" isn't the word.

JACKIE
That's good. You should be. I'm
excited for you.

CHRIS
Thanks, Jack. This is pretty cool.

JACKIE
Are you kidding? "Cool" isn't the
word. You guys are signed with Capitol
Records, you have a hit single, a hit
album and now you're going out on
tour. This is more than cool. It's
awesome. It's...incredible.

Just then, Simon walks up.

SIMON
It is awesome. And it's gonna be even
more awesome when we're on our way.
(He takes the cases that the two of
them are carrying) Most of the other
luggage is on the bus. You just about
ready, Chris?

CHRIS
Yeah, just about.

SIMON
Okay. I'm gonna bring this stuff out
and get on board. (He gives Jackie a
hug) See you when we get back, movie
star.

JACKIE
(Returning the hug)
You guys have a great trip.

SIMON
We will. Oh, Greg and Dina will
probably be along to see you before we

go, too.

JACKIE
I'll be here.

As Simon walks away, Chris and Jackie turn to each other.

CHRIS
So...

JACKIE
So...

CHRIS
So. This is it.

JACKIE.
Yes it is. The last time we're gonna
see each other for a few months.

CHRIS
Well, in person, anyway.

JACKIE
Yes, that's right. Webcam. We have to
do that as often as possible.

CHRIS
I agree.

JACKIE
(After thinking about the
situation for a moment)
You know...this...long-distance thing
we're doing here...

CHRIS
Yeah...

JACKIE
Do you think we'll be able to pull it
off? I mean, there are long-distance
relationships that don't work for
people who AREN'T in our situation.

CHRIS
(After thinking about it for a
moment)
Well, let me ask you this - do you
think we're worth it?

JACKIE
Of course I do. Do you?

CHRIS
You know I do.

JACKIE
(As they take hold of each other)
So then...we'll make it work.

CHRIS
Exactly.

Just then, Jackie looks back at the bus, then at Chris.

JACKIE
Everyone is waiting.

CHRIS
I know. (He reaches into his pocket and pulls out a CD) This is a special copy of a song on our album. It's called "Moonlit Summer Nights." This is an unplugged version I recorded the other day at the studio. I made it specifically for you.

JACKIE
(Taking it from Chris with unquestionable love and gratitude)
Thank you so much, Chris. I can't wait to hear it.

CHRIS
...And whenever you do listen to it, remember that every word I sing in this song describes exactly how I feel about you.

At that moment, the two of them kiss, hoping that time will fly by and they'll be together again before they know it.

JACKIE
I love you.

CHRIS
I love you.

After one more kiss, Chris heads onto the bus as Jackie stands outside the doors to the hotel until watches until the bus is out of sight.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - RON PORTER'S OFFICE, LOS ANGELES, CA

The following day, Jackie walks into Ron's office, where the cast and filmmakers of Ron's new movie, including Ron himself and Jay Miles, are gathered for a table read.

RON

(As Jackie walks in)
Jackie, hi. Great to see you again.

JACKIE

You too, Ron

RON

Please, take a seat.

JACKIE

(As she sits down)
Thanks.

RON

Everyone, this is Jackie Lyons. She's a newcomer who blew us away when she read for the part of Mindy not long ago.

JAY

(As everyone in the room greets Jackie)
Hi Jackie. How have you been?

JACKIE

Doing all right, Jay. You?

JACKIE

Doing okay. Glad to have this to get into. Chris actually just left on tour yesterday.

At that moment, one of the main actors in the cast, a leading man named James, overhears Jackie's comment.

JAMES

(As he walks up and offers to shake hands with Jackie)
Hi Jackie, I'm James.

JACKIE

(Recognizing him immediately and shaking hands with him)

Hi James, it's a pleasure to meet you. I've always enjoyed your work.

JAMES

Thank you, that's very kind of you to say. And from what I've heard, you do some pretty good work yourself.

JACKIE

(Modestly)

Well, I'm trying. This is my first movie so, we'll see how it goes.

JAY

Yeah, but if your audition is any indicator, I think we're gonna be in for a real treat.

JAMES

So Jackie, I hear that Ron discovered you on the set of a music video?

JACKIE

Yes. It was actually one that he was shooting with my boyfriend's band, Odyssey.

JAMES

Odyssey...they're new, right?

JACKIE

Yeah. They're on their first tour right now.

JAMES

Yeah, I actually just picked up their new CD.

JACKIE

"Cover-To-Cover."

JAMES

That's right. It's a great album. I'm becoming a big fan of theirs.

JACKIE

(Appreciating James' praise for
the band)

That's really cool. I'll have to let
Chris know when I talk to him next.

JAMES

Chris...he's the lead singer, right?

JACKIE

Yeah. He and I met just as the band
was really taking off in Saturday
Crossing.

JAMES

Is that where you guys are from?

JACKIE

Yeah. Apparently Chris was inspired to
write a song about me after we met and
the song was really good so they
wanted to me to come along when they
got signed here in L.A.

JAMES

That's great. which song, if you don't
mind me asking?

JACKIE

"Perfect Storm."

JAMES

Yes, I've heard that song.

JACKIE

It's a really good one. And it's a big
hit right now.

JAMES

I know. And he wrote that about you?

JACKIE

Yes.

JAMES

Well, you must really mean something
to him then.

JACKIE

He says I do. Treats me like it, too.

JAMES

That's great. It's good when you find someone that you have a connection with like that.

JACKIE

Yeah, it's definitely had an effect on me. That's for sure.

Just then, Ron speaks up as everyone takes their seats.

RON

All right everyone, we're gonna get started in just a minute. I just want to say thank you for being a part of this. The project we're about to work on together is something I've wanted to get done for a really long time and it's great to have such a talented group of individuals on board with me.

With that, everyone opens their copies of the script as the table read begins.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - LOEWS HOLLYWOOD HOTEL, LOS ANGELES

Later on that night, Jackie is sitting on the couch in her hotel room, listening to the tender copy of "Moonlight Summer Nights" that Chris gave her while attentively going over the script and doing some individual rehearsals. Suddenly, she gets a notification on her laptop. Opening it, she sees, much to her delight, that it's a video chat request from Chris.

CHRIS

Hey beautiful.

JACKIE

Hey rock star. Where are you?

CHRIS

In Vancouver.

JACKIE

Yeah, your first show on the tour is tonight, isn't it?

CHRIS

Yes it is. In about an hour, actually.

JACKIE

Awesome. That's really exciting.

CHRIS

Yeah, it is. we're all set up and ready to go. We've been rehearsing for the past few hours, but I wanted to get in touch with you and talk for a few minutes.

JACKIE

I'm glad you did. I know it hasn't been that long since you left, but I miss you already.

CHRIS

I miss you too. I'm glad we can see each other like this though.

JACKIE

Me too. Oh, and I LOVE Moonlit Summer Nights," by the way. I can't even tell you how many times I've listened to it already.

CHRIS

(Obviously pleased to hear that)
Good. I'm glad. I was hoping you'd like it. (Casually changing the subject) So how was your table read today? That was today, right?

JACKIE

Yeah, it was today.

CHRIS

Did it go well?

JACKIE

Yeah, it went really well. The whole cast seemed to really click, and a lot of people complimented me on my work especially. I guess it's because I'm kind of a rookie.

CHRIS

Or maybe it's because you really are that good.

JACKIE
You're just saying that because you're biased.

CHRIS
Yeah, maybe I am. But for good reason. You are seriously talented. And inspiring. Have I ever mentioned that?

JACKIE
(Sarcastically)
Yeah, once or twice.

CHRIS
Only because it's true.

JACKIE
(Smiling with appreciation for a moment before remembering something)
Oh, and you know who else was there?

CHRIS
Who?

JACKIE
James Connor.

CHRIS
(Surprised)
What...James Connor the movie star?

JACKIE
The very same.

CHRIS
Is he in the movie?

JACKIE
Yeah. He plays one of the lead roles.

CHRIS
That is so cool. You're in a movie with James Connor.

JACKIE
And you want to hear something even cooler?

CHRIS
What?

JACKIE
He's a fan of Odyssey.

CHRIS
No way.

JACKIE
Seriously. He said it. And he said he just bought a copy of Cover To Cover.

CHRIS
Man, that's just crazy.

JACKIE
Why? You guys make great music that appeals to everyone. You shouldn't be surprised at anyone who gets into it.

CHRIS
Thanks. I really appreciate the faith you have in what we're doing.

JACKIE
You don't have to thank me, Chris. I'm just saying it as I see and hear it. You guys are the ones up there doing it.

CHRIS
Yes, speaking of which, you wanna watch our concert tonight? You can do it right here online.

JACKIE
(Obviously excited as she puts her copy of the script down so she can focus on watching the concert)
Of course. I wouldn't miss it.

CHRIS
Okay. Well, Let me go and get ready. And the show will start shortly.

JACKIE
(With a smile)
Awesome.

At that moment, Chris ends the call and Jackie sits there for a moment, thinking pleasantly about the way things are going between she and Chris.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - GM PLACE, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA,
CANADA

A little while later, as the members of Odyssey prepare for their first concert on their first tour as a signed band, Mike is with them, helping them with some last-minute preparations in the dressing room.

MIKE

Okay, everybody. This is it. The night we've thought about for...

DINA

...A really long time.

MIKE

Yeah. Let's just put it that way. A really long time. (He thinks about everything for a moment) It's definitely worth it though, isn't it?

CHRIS

It has been so far. I mean, I know we're just starting our first tour, but even just what we've done up until now, you know? Everything over the past couple of months. Everything in L.A. It's been really exciting.

SIMON

Exciting is barely even the word. It's...

GREG

...It's a dream come true.

CHRIS

Yeah. That's it.

DINA

Couldn't have said it better myself.

MIKE

Me neither. (He looks at everybody one more time, then speaks up again) Okay then. Let's get it on and take this dream to the next level.

At that moment, the band heads out of the dressing room, with

the sound of the screaming, sold out crowd of nineteen thousand people echoing through the hall.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - LOEWS HOLLYWOOD HOTEL, LOS ANGELES

A few minutes later, Jackie sits in her hotel room watching the beginning of the concert on a video feed. Moments later, the house lights are lowered in the arena, while the stage lights begin to flicker, pulsate and flash while smoke starts to billow up from the stage. As the crowd cheers wildly and Jackie watches with a smile of pride and excitement, a voice echoes throughout the arena.

ANNOUNCER

VANCOUVER! ARE YOU READY?! (The crowd cheers even louder) ARE YOU READY?! (The crowd cheers even louder still) ARE YOU READY...TO TAKE...A ROCK AND ROLL JOURNEY?! (The crowd screams as a deep voice suddenly thunders through the air) ODYSSEY!

At that moment, the crowd erupts as Jackie laughs excitedly back in her room, watching the band explode through an array of lights and pyrotechnics, opening the night's setlist by rocking the place like true rock stars with their powerful song, "The One."

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - THE OFFICE OF STAN PRITCHARD, CEO OF CAPITOL RECORDS

During the Odyssey show in Vancouver, Stan Pritchard and Eddie Wilson are sitting together in Stan's office at Capitol, watching a broadcast of the concert together. After a minute or so, as Odyssey starts playing a cover of Van Halen's "Summer Nights," Stan turns to Eddie.

STAN

So Eddie...

EDDIE

Stan...

STAN

Eddie...I'd like you to be totally frank with me here.

EDDIE

Okay.

STAN

What do you think?

EDDIE

What do I think?

STAN

Yes. It's no secret that you know music. You know rock and roll. You know how it works and how to get things done. That's why you are who you are. That's why you are where you are, you know?

EDDIE

Yeah, I get what you're saying.

STAN

When you were coming up, you worked and worked because you wanted to do something great. You were trying to find that sound. And you did it. You became great. Now everyone knows Eddie Wilson, as they have for years. Because you've got it. And you know how to spot when someone else does as well. It's your gift. You know great music. So I want to know...do they have it? I know you see their potential and I know you believe in them, otherwise, you would never have taken them on in the first place. But I want to know if they really have it. I want you to tell me...does Eddie Wilson think that Odyssey has it? Do you think they're gonna be great?

Eddie sits and thinks for a moment as the concert continues, then he turns and looks back at Stan.

EDDIE

(With an expression of belief that the answer is obvious)
Stan...they're great already.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - THE LOCATION SET OF RON PORTER'S FILM,
"CRACK OF DOOM," WASHINGTON D.C.

As various cast and crew members move around the sprawling set, Jackie sits in a chair, going over her lines for the shooting of the upcoming scene. After a few moments, James Connely walks up to her

JAMES

Hey.

JACKIE

(Looking up from her script
momentarily)

Hey James.

JAMES

Hard at work?

JACKIE

Trying. I'm getting Mindy's situation in this scene, but I'm having a little trouble figuring out which way she's gonna convey her emotions.

JAMES

(Looking at his copy, turning to the page that Jackie's on)
Let's see..."Mindy knows that Paul is passionate about his work, and she tries to support him, but she also knows that doing it without federal clearance might be asking for trouble."

JACKIE

Yeah, right there.

JAMES

Okay...

JACKIE

The script allows for me to really create an opportunity here for Mindy to show a wide range of emotions. But at the same time though, I don't want her to come off as controlling or even insecure. I want it to be obvious that she supports Paul, but also has a genuine concern for both of their safety.

JAMES

Especially because, as we know, there is definitely a reason for concern.

JACKIE

Yes, exactly.

JAMES

So what about if she approaches Paul from a place of equal position?

JACKIE

What do you mean?

JAMES

I mean that, obviously, she supports him. But have her come to him showing her support from a position of being by his side, regardless of the outcome. A place of unconditional support, with the strength and confidence to hold that position despite her understandable feelings of concern. Know what I'm saying?

JACKIE

Okay. Yeah. Because they can stand together at a strong place now, and that will help make her into who she becomes later.

JAMES

Exactly.

JACKIE

Thanks. I appreciate the help.

JAMES

No problem.

JACKIE

I must seem like a real novice.

JAMES

No, not at all. You just seem like you care about the role. That's a good thing.

JACKIE

Thanks.

JAMES
You're welcome.

JACKIE
So when did you first get into this?

JAMES
Into what? Acting?

JACKIE
Yeah.

JAMES
(Thinking)
Wow. Um...fifteen, sixteen years ago.
Something like that. Right around when
I got out of college.

JACKIE
Was it like, what you always wanted to
do? (She realizes just then that she's
asking a lot of questions) I hope I'm
not going on too much.

JAMES
Going on with what? Asking questions?

JACKIE
Yeah.

JAMES
Not at all. This is normal
conversation. I don't mind it.

JACKIE
Okay. Good.

JAMES
And to answer your previous question,
I've always been interested in movies.
But I don't think I really started
getting serious about acting until I
was in my sophomore year of high
school.

JACKIE
Really?

JAMES
Yeah. The school I was going to had a
really good drama program and my

friends and I were actually interested in some of the girls who were in it.

JACKIE
(Laughing)
That figures.

JAMES
(Also laughing)
Of course. I was like, fifteen years old. What do you expect?

JACKIE
(Still laughing)
Yeah, you're probably right. (She changes the tone of the conversation)
So what happened from there?

JAMES
Well, I got a character role in a production the school was doing of "Tommy."

JACKIE
Wow, that's really cool. I love Tommy. The music in it's just awesome.

JAMES
Of course. Pete Townshend is a genius.

JACKIE
That he is.

JAMES
From there, I just kept on going out for roles, more and more of them being lead roles. That continued on into college, where I majored in drama. I had gotten the bug when I was in Tommy so I just kept improving my performing skills and stayed as active as possible, meeting different people, making connections whenever I could. Eventually, it led me to Hollywood.

JACKIE
And here you are.

JAMES
Here I am.

JACKIE

Any regrets?

JAMES

What do you mean?

JACKIE

Anything you wish you hadn't done, or at least, anything you wish you had done differently?

JAMES

Of course. I mean, nothing's perfect. But as far as my career goes, I think I can say that I don't really have any regrets.

JACKIE

Really? None at all?

JAMES

No, because everything that happened on my way here was something that I learned from, and in one way or another, it led me to this point. I just have to remember to learn from my mistakes, but I don't have any regrets.

JACKIE

(Thinking about what James just said)

Wow. I like that. Good way of looking at things.

JAMES

It beats the regrets.

JACKIE

Absolutely.

JAMES

What about you? Do you have any regrets?

JACKIE

(Thinking about it for a second)

Hmm...you know, that's a good question. I guess...probably not. I mean, my life has had its ups and downs, like everyone's. I've had my

triumphs and my struggles. But,
overall, it's been all right. So no, I
don't think I regret anything, either.

JAMES

That's good. I think regret just ends
up being a waste of time. You know?

JACKIE

Yeah, that's true. We can't change the
past, right?

JAMES

No, we can't. So why not make the
present and the future as good as
possible?

JACKIE

Yes. And the best way to do that is to
not waste your time dwelling on past
mistakes. Not when you can use them to
make things better for the future.

JAMES

I like the way you think.

JACKIE

(With a smile)
Thanks.

At that moment, Jay walks up to the two of them.

JAY

Hey, you guys just about ready? We're
gonna begin shooting the scene in a
minute.

JACKIE

I'm ready when you guys are.

JAMES

Yeah, me too.

Right then, a voice can be heard calling for everyone to take
their place. With that, James, Jackie and Jay head over to
start shooting the scene, as Jackie's phone can be seen
resting near where Jackie was just sitting. On the screen,
there are a number of missed call notifications from the past
week or so; including a number from Chris.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NEW YORK CITY

A few weeks later, on Halloween Night, Odyssey is backstage at the legendary Madison Square Garden, preparing for an extravagant show supporting none other than the one and only KISS. Barely able to contain their excitement, Odyssey gets ready while discussing the situation.

DINA

Okay, seriously guys, you have to admit, none of us ever saw this coming.

SIMON

I know I didn't. I mean, our Chicago show was great. That was just a blast. But when they told us afterward that KISS had seen it and was really impressed - impressed enough to ask us to join them here tonight - man, I'm still trying to grasp it.

DINA

(Turning to Chris)

Hey...have you told Jackie about this?

CHRIS

No, actually. I haven't spoken to her since before we found out about it.

DINA

(Clearly surprised that Chris hasn't told Jackie)

What?!

CHRIS

(Surprised at Dina's reaction)

What do you mean, "what?"

DINA

What do I mean?! Chris, this is Jackie!

CHRIS

Yeah, I know. We don't have to tell each other everything all the time.

SIMON

No Chris, but she's your girl. AND

she's an important person to this band. And considering the scope of what's going on with us right now, this is definitely something you should tell her.

GREG

(After a slightly uncomfortable pause in the room)
Are you guys okay?

CHRIS

(Sitting back and thinking for a moment)
In all honesty, I'm not sure.

MIKE

What are you talking about?

CHRIS

I've called her a few times recently but haven't gotten through - and she hasn't called me back. And before that, the past few times I have talked to her, with some of the things she's told me, it just seems like she's been spending a lot of time with James Connor.

DINA

Well, they are working together. And you know she's been busy shooting the movie. That can take up a lot of time.

CHRIS

I know. But I guess, maybe I just haven't been as eager to tell her about stuff with us recently because I've been feeling like she's too busy to talk to me. I haven't even mentioned to her that we went to CBGB's and Manny's Music the other day. Besides, with a guy like James Connor around, how could I keep her impressed?

DINA

Okay. Well, has she done or said anything that made you think something's going on?

CHRIS

No, it's just...a feeling.

GREG

Dude, you need to be careful of those feelings. They can ruin a good thing. I know that from experience.

DINA

He is right, Chris. Insecurity can take something good and turn it into something you never wanted it to be.

CHRIS

Okay. So then, what do I do? How do I deal with this?

Just then, an excitingly familiar voice answers Chris' question from the doorway of the dressing room. It's Paul Stanley from KISS.

PAUL

(As he stands there in full KISS character and makeup)
For starters, you should tell her about what you're doing tonight.

CHRIS

(Just as star-struck as the rest of Odyssey as Paul walks into the room)
Um, yeah; I should.

PAUL

(Extending his hand to shake)
Paul.

CHRIS

(Shaking Paul's hand as the rest of KISS walks in, fully costumed, and introduces themselves)
Wow, I'm sorry, man. I just have to say, this is an honor.

PAUL

Not at all, the honor is ours. You guys really rock. We enjoyed seeing your show in Chicago.

CHRIS

Thanks. We're just having a great time

out here.

PAUL

That's what it's about.

Just then, Gene Simmons walks over and speaks up.

GENE

So if I may, when we walked in, you were saying something about a particular lady of yours.

CHRIS

(Getting back to the conversation about Jackie)

Yes. I love impressing her, but I was just saying how I feel like I'm able to do less and less to impress her because she's just getting into her Hollywood career as an actress and she's making waves among big people in the industry. So I guess i just feel like I might be slipping out of her league.

GENE

But...you're a rock star.

CHRIS

(Thinking about what Gene just said)

Man, it sounds weird to hear anyone say that about us.

At that moment, Tommy Thayer, KISS' lead guitarist, interjects.

TOMMY

Believe me, I know that feeling. But it's true. And you have to remember that what you're doing is something you should be proud of, regardless of whether someone else likes it or not.

CHRIS

I know. And like I was telling my bandmates here before, she really hasn't done anything to actually give me any specific doubts. It's probably just my own thoughts.

Just then, KISS' drummer, Eric Singer, responds to Chris' comment.

ERIC

So don't worry about it then. Just go out there and show your confidence. I mean it. Rock this place to the ground. Just do what you do best, you know? What you were created to do. Because that's why you're here.

As Chris pauses for a moment, then looks at the rest of Odyssey, Simon gives him some encouragement.

SIMON

They're right, brother. We're here to show what we can do. (He holds up his cell phone) So call Jackie, tell her what's going on here, and let's do this.

Taking the phone, Chris looks at it for a moment, then comes up with an idea.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - THE LOCATION SET OF RON PORTER'S FILM, "CRACK OF DOOM," WASHINGTON D.C.

Not long after the members of Odyssey have their conversation with the members of KISS, Jackie is on set in DC where Ron's production is working on the last few location scenes of Crack Of Doom in that area. Just as they finish shooting one of the scenes, Jay walks over to Jackie.

JAY

Hey Jackie.

JACKIE

Hey Jay. How's everything?

JAY

Good. You guys did a great job on that last scene.

JACKIE

Thanks.

JAY

You're welcome. Would you mind walking with me for a second? I just have

something I need to show you.

JACKIE

Okay.

As the two of them walk across the set, they come to an area where a large TV screen sits in top of some equipment. Looking around, Jackie notices that most of the cast and a lot of the crew, including Ron, are also gathering there.

JACKIE

(Turning to Jay)

What's going on?

JAY

(As he picks up a remote and turns on the TV)

We got a call a few minutes ago from Chris.

JACKIE

(Surprised)

Chris? What, MY Chris?

JAY

Yeah. There's something he wanted you to see that he hasn't told you about yet.

JACKIE

Okay. What is it?

JAY

Their concert tonight.

JACKIE

Okay. I think it's in New York.

JAY

Yeah, Madison Square Garden.

As the TV turns on and everyone watches, Jackie is stunned to see that KISS is on screen, with Paul Stanley addressing the crowd.

PAUL

All right, people...you all having a good time?! (The crowd roars in response.) Tonight, we have a a little something special planned for you. We

were in Chicago a little while back
and we heard this band. I said, we
were in the Windy City a little while
back, and we heard this rock and roll
band! (The crowd cheers again) And you
know...the thing is...good rock and
roll is something you wanna share with
the world, right? (The crowd cheers
once more) Well, we're gonna share it
with you tonight! (Yet again, the
crowd cheers) New York City! Let's
celebrate Halloween tonight with some
awesome rock and roll! Here they are,
playing the Garden for the first time
ever, please welcome, ODYSSEY!

As Jackie and the rest of the cast and crew of Crack Of Doom
watch on the screen, Odyssey roars out to the stage and
performs an explosive duet with KISS' of their classic song,
"Shout It Out Loud." Looking around at the crew and her
fellow cast members, Jackie smiles with a combination of joy
and surprise before looking back at the screen. Just then,
Ron speaks up.

RON

Wow, Jackie. How cool is this?

JACKIE

You're telling me. I didn't even know
they were doing this.

RON

What...you mean, nobody told you?

JACKIE

No.

RON

Chris didn't even mention it?

JACKIE

No. Not at all. Did you know?

RON

Me? No, I had no idea. I haven't even
spoken to anyone involved with Odyssey
in, probably a couple of months now.

JACKIE

Wow. (She thinks for a moment) I

wonder why Chris never said anything.
I mean, it's not like he has to report
to me everything he's doing. But
this...

RON
No, this is different. You guys are
together, and something like this, you
want to tell your significant other.

JACKIE
You'd think so.

RON
(After a pause)
Well, I'm sure he had reason for not
bringing it up. Maybe he wanted it to
be a surprise.

JACKIE
(Uneasily, as she continues
watching the screen with everyone
else)
Yeah. Maybe.

With that, Jackie continues looking on from the set of "Crack
Of Doom." as KISS and Odyssey tear Madison Square Garden
apart.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - ODYSSEY'S TOUR BUS

Sometime later, Chris is sitting on the bus as it drives to
the next tour date, talking to Jackie on the phone.

CHRIS
So how'd you like the concert?

JACKIE
Oh...it was incredible.

CHRIS
(Noticing a difference in Jackie's
usual level of excitement when
discussing something of that
magnitude)
What's wrong?

JACKIE
What do you mean?

CHRIS
You just...I don't know. You don't
seem yourself right now.

JACKIE
(After a momentary pause)
Well, I'm okay. But I was a little
surprised that you didn't say anything
about your show with KISS. You know,
like when you first found out about
it.

CHRIS
Actually, I did try to. I called you a
few times, including once or twice
when we first found out after our
Chicago show.

JACKIE
Well, I have been really busy
recently, with the movie and all. But
you could have texted or emailed me.

CHRIS
I know. But after I didn't get you on
the phone and you didn't call me back,
plus with the fact that I know you've
been spending a lot of time working
with James Connor, I just figured we'd
catch up eventually and I'd just tell
you about it then.

JACKIE
(Surprised)
Eventually?

CHRIS
Yeah.

JACKIE
Well Chris...I mean, yeah. I've been
busy. We both have, right? But
something like this...this is bigger
than a regular conversation, you know?
And anyway, I have been working with
James a lot, but that's because we're
both playing lead roles in this movie.

CHRIS

Okay.

JACKIE

Okay?

CHRIS

Yeah. Okay.

JACKIE

What do you mean, "Okay?"

CHRIS

Just what I said. Okay.

JACKIE

So, that's it? Just, "Okay?"

CHRIS

Well, what else do you want me to say?

JACKIE

(Surprised again)

Well, I guess I was just hoping that maybe we could talk about this with a little more detail.

CHRIS

What kind of detail? We discussed it, now it's settled.

JACKIE

Um...yeah, we have discussed it. But I don't think it's really settled yet.

CHRIS

Okay. So how do you think we should settle it? I mean, yeah, maybe I was being a little paranoid. But even though we are both really busy, if we want this to work, we need to make time for one another.

JACKIE

I know that. And I'm telling you, I am really trying. I really am. It's just that sometimes, I get caught up in everything and it gets a little difficult.

CHRIS

Believe me, I know the feeling. But I still make time for you.

JACKIE

You didn't when you found out about your show with KISS.

CHRIS

Yes, I did. I told you. I tried you a few times, but you weren't answering. And you didn't get in touch with me during that time, either.

JACKIE

How was I supposed to know you were playing with KISS?

CHRIS

I mean just in general. It was two weeks between our Chicago show and when we played with KISS. You never called me once during that time. Why do you think I started to wonder what was going on?

JACKIE

Okay; look. We're both busy. We've discussed that. And we both understand that we might not always have lots of time to talk. But how about if we at least make sure to text one another instead of simply not answering for who knows how long? Even if just to say hi and we'll talk at a better time.

CHRIS

That works.

JACKIE

Okay.

CHRIS

Okay. (After a momentary pause) And I'm sorry about this.

JACKIE

So am I. You know I love you.

CHRIS

I know. I love you too. Always.

JACKIE

So how was it...being on stage at Madison Square Garden, playing with KISS?

CHRIS

In a word - awesome.

JACKIE

I'll bet.

CHRIS

Yeah. It really was. Just...unreal.

JACKIE

And what were the guys from KISS like? Did you get to talk to them outside of the performance? Like backstage or anything?

CHRIS

Oh yeah. It was cool. They're very down-to-earth.

JACKIE

That's great. I've actually heard that about them.

CHRIS

Yeah, me too. (After a momentary pause from both of them, Chris speaks up with an obvious lack of enthusiasm in his voice.) Okay, well, listen, not to cut you short, but I have some rehearsing to do. We're playing in Atlanta tomorrow night.

JACKIE

(Also with a noticeable lack of enthusiasm)
Okay. I guess we'll talk again soon.

CHRIS

Oh yeah.

JACKIE

Good luck with your show in Atlanta.

CHRIS

Thanks.

JACKIE

Bye.

CHRIS

Bye.

With that, they both end the call, each of them stopping to think for a moment about the clear distance that's developed between them.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - PHILIPS ARENA - ATLANTA, GEORGIA

The following night, Odyssey is playing a sold-out show at the Phillips Arena in Atlanta. Closing out the show, the band tears it up with a rousing cover of Nazareth's version of Joni Mitchell's "This Flight Tonight." Shortly after, as the band reaches their dressing rooms and starts winding down from the concert, Dina approaches Chris.

DINA

Hey.

CHRIS

(As he re-tunes his guitar a bit)

Hey.

DINA

Everything okay?

CHRIS

Yeah. Why?

DINA

Well, because we were supposed to close the show out with "Paradise City," but you changed it to "This Flight tonight" at the last minute.

CHRIS

Yeah, I know. It just felt like...I don't know, that was the best song to finish with.

DINA

Chris?

CHRIS

What?

DINA

You never change a song at the spur of the moment like that.

CHRIS

I know.

DINA

What's wrong? And why, of all songs, was "This Flight Tonight" the best song for that moment?

CHRIS

(After a pause)

I just have some things on my mind, and "This Flight Tonight" seemed to fit the way I've been feeling.

DINA

Is this about Jackie?

CHRIS

Yeah.

DINA

Considering that "This Flight Tonight" is about a person missing their love and regretting a trip they took, should we be concerned about you leaving the tour?

CHRIS

No, not at all. You don't have to worry about that. (Thinking about his reasoning for choosing that particular song) I think I chose it just because I've been missing the way things used to be. You know, between Jackie and I.

DINA

Did you talk to her after the KISS concert?

CHRIS

Yeah, I did.

DINA

How'd it go?

CHRIS
(Thinking about it with
frustration, then shaking his
head doubtfully)
Not that well, to be honest.

DINA
Anything you want to talk about?

CHRIS
I don't really know what to say about
it. Just seems like things are
starting to drift, you know?

DINA
Okay. Is it because of what you were
talking about on Halloween?

CHRIS
What, you mean my insecurities?

DINA
Yeah.

CHRIS
No, not entirely. I mean, it's kinda
because of what created the
insecurities to begin with. I know
she's not with any other guys, you
know? It's nothing like that. But I
think it's just because we've both
been so busy. We did both agree to try
and stay in touch in one way or
another, even just a text or
something, regardless of what we're
doing. But after the last conversation
we had, it just seemed like everything
was kinda forced. On both our ends.

DINA
So...do you guys still love each
other?

CHRIS
Of course. But I think maybe we've
become so busy that the spark we had
before is getting a bit weak. Almost
like the love is there, but making
sure we act on it, especially with the
distance between us, is becoming kind
of an afterthought.

DINA
Hmm. Well that's not good.

CHRIS
I know.

DINA
So what are you gonna do about it?

CHRIS
I don't know.

DINA
Okay. (Chris looks at her.) Well you know, we've been friends for years. But I'm not gonna presume to tell you what you should do with your relationship.

CHRIS
I know.

DINA
...But I will say this. Even though you should do something about it either way...at the same time...I've never seen you happier than you've been since you've been with her.

With that, Dina gets up, putting her hand on Chris' shoulder momentarily, and walks toward the other side of the room where Greg and Simon are putting some of their gear away.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - UNIVERSAL STUDIOS, HOLLYWOOD, CA

Just before Christmas, the production of "Crack Of Doom" is doing some last-second post-production work at Universal Studios, just ahead of its pre-New Years release. As they break for lunch, Ron walks up to Jackie.

RON
Hey.

JACKIE
Hey, Ron.

RON
You have any plans for lunch?

JACKIE

Um...I was thinking about going to get something quick. Maybe Subway or something.

RON

Okay. Well, I wanted to talk to you about something. So how about we go to Buca di Beppo? My treat.

JACKIE

(Surprised)

Wow, okay. Thanks, Ron.

RON

(As they head toward the door)

Not a problem.

A short time later, they're seated at the restaurant.

JACKIE

(As they look at their menus)

I love Italian food.

RON

So do I. Always have. Anything interest you on the menu?

JACKIE

(Sarcastically)

Everything.

As she and Ron smile, the server, Amy, comes up to them.

AMY

Good afternoon. My name is Amy and I'll be your server. Can I start you off with something to drink?

JACKIE

Yeah, can I just get a Pepsi?

AMY

(Turning to Ron)

And for you?

RON

Root beer, please.

AMY

Okay. Are you guys ready to order or

do you need a minute?

RON

I think I'm ready. (He looks at Jackie) What about you?

JACKIE

I'm ready.

AMY

Okay. So what would you like?

JACKIE

I'll have the lasagna.

Amy turns to Ron.

AMY

And you?

RON

(Looking at the menu)
I will have the Shrimp Fra Diavolo,
please.

AMY

(As she finishes writing
everything down)
Okay. (She then looks at the two of
them.) Would you like me to take your
menus?

RON

(As he and Jackie hand the menus
to Amy)
Sure, thank you.

AMY

(As she takes the menus)
No problem. I will put these orders in
right away and bring you your drinks
in a few minutes.

JACKIE

Great, thank you. (As Amy walks away,
Jackie turns to Ron) Okay, so what was
it you wanted to talk to me about?

RON

Well, I've noticed something about you

recently.

JACKIE

Okay...

RON

I mean, you've been doing great in your role. Seriously, you've been just...fantastic.

JACKIE

Thank you.

RON

You're welcome.

JACKIE

But?

RON

But...it's outside of there, that I've noticed the...um, well, I guess you could say the problem.

JACKIE

The problem?

RON

Yeah.

JACKIE

All right. What kind of problem?

RON

Well, I don't want to get too personal but...

JACKIE

(After a moment)

What is it?

RON

Okay. Let me ask you this. Did you enjoy our Thanksgiving dinner last month?

JACKIE

Yeah, it was great. First time I ever had Thanksgiving on a Hollywood movie set.

RON
Good. I'm glad you liked it. And you
got to talk to your family and
everything?

JACKIE
Yeah. We spoke through video call
online.

RON
That's great.

JACKIE
Yeah.

RON
What about Chris?

JACKIE
(After a brief moment of surprise
at the question)
Um...yeah, he...um...

RON
(After giving Jackie a moment to
think)
Did you talk to him?

JACKIE
Yeah, I did.

RON
But you don't remember what he did for
Thanksgiving?

JACKIE
(Thinking about it for another
moment)
I...actually...no. I don't remember.

RON
Did he tell you?

JACKIE
Yeah. And I told him what I was doing.

RON
Okay.

JACKIE
But I...don't remember what he said.

RON

(After a momentary pause)

So...you think that might be a sign of what's going on?

JACKIE

(After thinking for a moment as well)

Yeah. I'm sorry to say it, but I think so. It just seems...it seems like we've gotten so involved in our careers that we've drifted apart.

RON

(Sympathetically)

Yeah, that's how it seems on the outside as well. You know, from my perspective. And I've noticed that around the times when you and Chris have spoken, it seems to affect you.

JACKIE

Like how?

RON

Almost like it rattles you emotionally. And not like you don't want to talk to Chris. Just like you seem overwhelmed. Like you're trying to maintain everything in your life, but the stress of it is starting to get to you, and it affects you especially when you talk to Chris.

JACKIE

(After thinking about it for a moment)

I don't want that to happen though.

RON

I'm sure you don't. But in all honesty, I've seen it happen many times before.

JACKIE

So what do we do then?

RON

I think the question you should be asking is, what you should do.

JACKIE

Me?

RON

Yeah. You need to figure out what you're going to do. That's your part. Let Chris decide how he's gonna handle it, you know?

JACKIE

Yeah, you're right. Should I talk to him then?

RON

That's up to you. But you should do something because you don't want things between the two of you to just keep unraveling. That'll bring nothing but animosity in the long run.

JACKIE

I know. (Thinking about it) I just don't know how to approach it. For myself or for Chris, you know? I'm just not sure what to do. I guess I just never thought about the possibility of something like this happening. Yet another reason why it's going this way, I'm sure.

RON

Well, I can't tell you what to do. But I can tell you that whatever you do, as I indicated before, you should figure it out and do something before it gets worse. Because neither you nor Chris needs that.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - HARD ROCK LIVE AT UNIVERSAL STUDIOS,
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

A couple of weeks later on New Years Eve, Odyssey is at Hard Rock Live in Universal Studios, Orlando, getting ready to perform. As everyone in the band prepares individually, Chris is walking around behind the stage, talking to Jackie on the phone.

CHRIS

...Hey honey. So how's everything?

JACKIE

Good. It's been good. You?

CHRIS

Doing good. It feels like forever since we spoke on Christmas. You're doing okay?

JACKIE

Yeah, I am. Busy, you know?

CHRIS

Yeah, I get that. I have to admit, as much as I'm enjoying this experience, it's definitely much busier than I expected.

JACKIE

I agree. You wouldn't believe some of the days I put in.

CHRIS

I know. Sometimes, it almost feels like one day just drifts into another, you know? Like there's just no difference. I tend to almost forget what day it is.

JACKIE

Yeah, I know what you mean.

For a few moments. there's a pause. Then they start talking again, almost like they're trying to keep the conversation going against its will.

CHRIS

So what are you doing right now?

JACKIE

Right now, I'm spending a quiet evening resting and celebrating the New Year at home.

CHRIS

You still in L.A.?

JACKIE

Yeah. I actually just moved into a new apartment.

CHRIS

Yeah, I remember you mentioned you were gonna be doing that. You like it?

JACKIE

Yeah, it's nice. It's in Burbank so I don't have to drive all that far to work.

CHRIS

So how's everything been with Ron's movie?

JACKIE

Good. It was just released the other day.

CHRIS

Was it really? Man, I'm sorry Jackie. I've honestly been so busy, I didn't even realize it.

JACKIE

It's okay. I realized at the premier that I hadn't even gotten in touch with you after Ron told me he was going to ask you about writing a song for the Crack Of Doom soundtrack. I'm sorry.

CHRIS

It's all right. I guess we've both kinda lost track of each other.

JACKIE

Yeah. I've been so focused recently on whatever's next for me that I've barely thought about anything else.

After a momentary pause from both of them, Chris speaks up.

CHRIS

So what is next for you?

JACKIE

(After another pause)
Good question.

CHRIS

Yeah.

JACKIE

In all honesty, I don't know. I mean, I've already had some offers of new roles. I just don't know what I'm gonna take yet. (She thinks for a second) I haven't really had a lot of ideas in terms of what my next move is. I guess everything's just sorta one big question mark.

CHRIS

Yeah, I get that. And I'm sure a lot of that has to do with us, doesn't it?

JACKIE

(Slightly surprised at Chris' question)

Yeah, actually, it does. Am I that obvious?

CHRIS

No, it's not just you. I've been feeling the same way, and I know that overall, this has been affecting everything between us. Even our conversations.

JACKIE

I know.

CHRIS

So what are we gonna do about it?

JACKIE

I'm not sure.

CHRIS

Okay, let me rephrase the question. What do you want to do about it?

JACKIE

Why is it up to me?

CHRIS

I'm not leaving it entirely up to you, Jackie. I just wanna know how you feel.

JACKIE

Okay. Well, I can tell you that on my end, love has nothing to do with the

way we've been growing apart. Not even close. I still love you, as much as I always have.

CHRIS

Good. Because I feel the same way.

JACKIE

That is good.

CHRIS

But...love isn't enough, is it?

JACKIE

No. Not right now, at least. I think everything is just too much, you know?

CHRIS

Yeah, I agree. I find myself feeling almost like, as much as I want you to know what's going on with me and with the band and all...it's almost like..I don't know...like an inconvenience, for lack of a better term. I guess like a hassle. But I don't want it to be, you know? Not at all.

JACKIE

I know, Chris. I feel the same way. To be honest, I don't even remember the last time I listened to that copy you gave me of "Moonlit Summer Nights." But I don't like that, you know? I don't think that's how things should be between us. And it's not even that I don't feel that you being a major part of my life isn't worth the effort. I guess I just don't really know how to do it consistently anymore. Not these days, anyway.

CHRIS

I know. So then, how should we handle this? Because I do love you. But work is just taking up everything right now, and I do not want it to destroy how much you mean to me.

JACKIE

No, I don't want that either. (She

pauses) So maybe we should...I don't know, I guess, not so much break up, but just kinda give it a break, you know? Maybe see how things end up a little ways down the road.

CHRIS
Yeah, I agree.

JACKIE
Okay.

CHRIS
(After a pause)
You're still my inspiration though.

JACKIE
Am I really?

CHRIS
Always.

Just then, the two of them wait quietly for a few moments, not really sure what to say, but not really wanting to let go, either. Then Jackie speaks up.

JACKIE
So...yeah. I should get going.

CHRIS
Yeah, me too. We're gonna be playing soon.

JACKIE
Tell everybody I said hi though, okay?

CHRIS
I will do that. And you...have a Happy New Year.

JACKIE
I will, Chris. You too.

CHRIS
Thanks, Jackie. I'll talk to you later.

JACKIE
Talk to you later.

CHRIS

Bye.

JACKIE

Bye.

A little while later, Chris leads Odyssey in closing out the night and ringing in the New Year with a spectacular cover of Meat Loaf and Jim Steinmann's "Bat Out Of Hell."

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - MEGAN WAGNER'S OFFICE, LOS ANGELES

A few weeks later, Jackie walks into Megan Wagner's office and sits down. Megan is sitting at her desk.

MEGAN

So, how's everything, Jackie?

JACKIE

Everything is...good. Everything's good.

MEGAN

That's great. "Crack Of Doom" is really going strong.

JACKIE

Yes it is.

MEGAN

Any thought to the roles I brought up to you the other day?

JACKIE

Yeah, I have been thinking about them. They seem really interesting.

MEGAN

Interesting?

JACKIE

Yeah.

MEGAN

What do you mean, "Interesting?"

JACKIE

(Getting flustered)

I...I don't know, Megan. Seriously, I

just can't seem to make sense of
anything right now.

MEGAN

Yeah, I've noticed that. Anything you
want to talk about?

JACKIE

I just have a lot on my mind.

MEGAN

Well, I know that you haven't really
been yourself since you and Chris
broke up.

JACKIE

We didn't break up. We're taking a
break.

MEGAN

Whatever you want to call it. Look, I
know it's hard. I've been there. But
this is a decision you guys both made
and in all honesty, I think it was a
wise idea.

JACKIE

You do?

MEGAN

Yeah. You guys are really good
together. But you're also both so
involved in getting your careers going
that your relationship started to take
a backseat - and it was affecting both
of you. Am I right?

JACKIE

Yeah, you're right.

MEGAN

So as much as I understand when you
want to be with someone but can't for
one reason or another - at least not
right now - I think the best thing for
you to do is involve yourself in
deciding which of these new roles you
might be interested in and let your
career stabilize.

JACKIE

I know, and you're right. It's just easier said than done. I mean, the whole reason why Chris and I decided to give things a break was because our careers were overtaking everything. But now, it's like I'm trying to continue doing what I've been doing, but without Chris in my life, it feels like something's missing.

MEGAN

That's the thing, Jackie. Chris is missing. You still love him, right?

JACKIE

Of course.

MEGAN

Yeah. You guys didn't break up because you fell out of love.

JACKIE

I know.

MEGAN

So...you think that maybe you guys putting things on hold or taking a break or doing whatever it is you're doing...you think maybe that was not the best decision?

JACKIE

I didn't before...but now I'm starting to wonder.

MEGAN

Jackie...you guys are right for each other. You inspire each other. You're both talented in two different ways, but you both provide the right connection just by being together. Why do you think neither of you hit it big until you met? And then, it happened at the same time. That's not just a coincidence.

JACKIE

I never even thought of it that way. That's actually a good point. (She thinks for a moment) So then, what

should I do? I mean, I thought I was making the right decision before. But obviously it was a little hasty.

MEGAN

I don't know if I'd say it was hasty. You guys were still drifting apart. You just need to figure out the best course of action that'll continue your relationship but in a way that allows you both to balance things out. You know what I mean?

JACKIE

Yeah, I do.

MEGAN

And you also need to remember, this is not just on you. It's a decision you guys both made. Did you forget that?

JACKIE

No, I didn't. But I do feel...I don't know...maybe a little guilty for my part in it.

MEGAN

But the both you have to figure this out together. So because you both had a part in it, you both need to decide what you're gonna do next and how you're gonna handle the way your futures are playing out. Not only regarding the relationship, but the way your careers feed each other as well.

JACKIE

(After thinking for a moment about the points Megan has made)
You know, you should be a therapist.

MEGAN

Maybe. Other people have said that.

JACKIE

So why don't you do it?

MEGAN

I don't know. Maybe being an agent is

a little more fun.

Megan and Jackie both smile before Megan starts gathering some paperwork to go over with Jackie.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - THE MISSISSIPPI COAST COLISEUM, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Not long after Jackie and Megan had their conversation at Megan's office in L.A., Odyssey is in Biloxi, Mississippi tearing the Mississippi Coast Coliseum apart with an incredible cover of Mountain's, "Mississippi Queen." Immediately following, Odyssey ends the show with a phenomenal performance of their high-energy original song, "Masquerades." A little while later, the band heads out toward the road again. Before doing so, they decide to stop and get something to eat at a truck stop just near the entrance to the highway.

CHRIS

(As everyone sits down and starts looking at their menus)
Man, I am starving.

DINA

Yeah, me too. I barely had anything before the show.

GREG

Neither did I.

SIMON

I had a small dinner. Sort of.

DINA

(Jokingly giving Simon a hard time)
Small? I saw the size of that sandwich you were eating, Simon.

SIMON

Hey come on, give me a break. It takes a lot of energy to play the way I do.

CHRIS

(Also giving him a hard time)
Oh, okay. Well, I guess you could put it that way.

DINA
I don't know. I think most of that
energy goes to your ego.

SIMON
Everybody's got jokes tonight.

Just then, their young server, Amanda, walks up.

AMANDA
Hi guys, I'm Amanda and I'll be your
server.

DINA
Hi, Amanda.

AMANDA
Can I start you out with something to
drink?

CHRIS
(Looking at everyone else, then
back at Amanda)
Uh...yeah. I'll have...do you guys
have orange soda here?

AMANDA
Yes, we sure do.

CHRIS
Okay, I'll have that. (He looks at
Dina) What about you, Dina?

DINA
Just a Pepsi. (She looks at Greg and
Simon) What about you guys?

GREG
I'll have Sprite. (He looks next to
him) Simon?

SIMON
I'll just have...you have iced tea?

AMANDA
Of course.

SIMON
Great. That's what I'll get.

AMANDA

(As she finishes writing their
drink orders down)

Okay, great. (She looks back at them
again) Hey, um...I hope you don't mind
me asking this
but...Dina...Simon...(She looks at
Chris and Greg) and you guys
are...Chris Lane and Greg Turner? (She
pauses excitedly for a moment then
continues with a shy smile) You're
Odyssey, aren't you?

CHRIS

(Being very accommodating but
still trying to keep a relatively
low profile)

Yes, that would be us.

AMANDA

(Trying, although not very well,
to contain her excitement)

Wow. Okay, I'm sorry. I don't mean to
embarrass you. I just...wow, I'm a
really big fan.

DINA

It's okay Amanda, you're not
embarrassing us.

AMANDA

Yeah, I'm sure you guys get this all
the time.

GREG

It does tend to happen. We appreciate
it though.

SIMON

So, have you been to any of our shows
yet?

AMANDA

Oh, yeah. I was actually at the
Coliseum tonight.

DINA

Really?

AMANDA

Yes, I was. I actually got called into
work shortly after it ended. I wasn't

originally supposed to be here
tonight, but the girl who was
scheduled called out. Now I'm glad she
did.

CHRIS

(With an appreciative smile)
So, how'd you like the show?

AMANDA

It was awesome. Seriously, you guys
are great in concert.

SIMON

Thanks.

GREG

You have any favorite songs?

AMANDA

Well, I do love "Perfect Storm" and,
well, every other one. Pretty much
like everybody else. But
personally...I think "We're Together"
is my favorite. Oh, that reminds me -
would you guys mind signing my copy of
your CD? I have it just outside in my
car.

CHRIS

Of course.

AMANDA

(Obviously excited)
Thank you so much. I'll be right back.

As Amanda heads outside, the band members continue talking
amongst themselves.

SIMON

I have to say, even though we've
gotten a lot of...fanfare, I guess -
which I do appreciate - still, it just
feels to me like someone coming up to
us individually like this is so much
cooler than us trying to respond to a
thousand people at the same time while
security is rushing us into the tour
bus, you know? There's just
something...I don't know...more

personal...more human about doing it
this way.

DINA

Yeah, you know, I never really thought
about it before. But that's a good
point. If only we had the time to do
it that way.

CHRIS

(Thinking about it)

Hmm. You know...maybe we do.

GREG

What do you mean?

CHRIS

I mean, maybe we do have the time. We
just need to reorganize it a bit.

Just then, Amanda comes rushing in with her CD.

AMANDA

I'm sorry. I ran as quickly as I
could.

DINA

It's all good, Amanda. (She pulls out
a pen and leans forward to look at the
CD, which Amanda has placed on the
table) So, what do you want us to
write?

AMANDA

Um...wow. I don't know. "To Amanda?"
What do you guys usually write when
you sign autographs?

GREG

Oh, it varies. Sometimes we just throw
something down, but sometimes there
are specific things that people ask
for.

DINA

I have an idea. (She proceeds to write
on the front cover of the CD) "To
Amanda, the greatest late-night server
a rock band could ever ask for. All
the best. Odyssey."

With that, all four members proceeded to sign their names next to the pictures of each of themselves on the cover, all of them having fun by drawing silly pictures on the photos as well. After they're done, Simon hands the CD to Amanda.

AMANDA

(Looking at the cover like a kid
on Christmas morning)

Wow. Thank you, really. This is
just...wow.

CHRIS

Hey, you're one of our fans. It's the
least we can do.

AMANDA

Oh, believe me, I appreciate it. But
there was one more thing, if you don't
mind...

GREG

What's that?

AMANDA

Would I maybe be able to get a picture
with you guys?

GREG

(As the band members all stand up
from their seats and gather
around Amanda while she takes out
her phone)

Of course.

AMANDA

(Holding the camera up)

Okay, here we go, One...two...three!
(She takes the picture, then lowers
the phone as the members of Odyssey go
back to their seats) Wow, this is
great. (She puts her phone away and
drops the CD in the pocket of her
apron, then picks up the pad she wrote
their drink orders on) Well, I really
appreciate it. Seriously, thank you so
much. (Changing the subject) So, did
you get a chance to look at your
menus, or did you want me to give you
a few more minutes?

CHRIS

Um, if we can get a few more minutes,
that would be good.

AMANDA

No problem. I'll just get your drinks
in the meantime.

CHRIS

Okay, cool. Thanks, Amanda.

AMANDA

No problem. I'll be back in a few
minutes.

As Amanda heads away to get the drinks, Chris, Dina, Greg and
Simon read their menus, trying to decide what to get.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - BOULEVARD TRUCK STOP - BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

A little while later, the band is sitting and eating,
enjoying some friendly conversation.

GREG

You know, I do enjoy the spreads we
get at the shows and all. But there's
nothing like these down-home, roadside
restaurants.

DINA

Oh yeah. I've always loved places like
this.

CHRIS

You guys remember that truck stop on
the highway just outside Saturday
Crossing that was open, wow, since
before we were born, now that I think
about it?

SIMON

Yeah, I used to love that place.

GREG

Me too. That was my sister's first
job, you remember?

CHRIS

Yeah, I do remember that. Wasn't that the first summer that you and I knew each other?

GREG

Yeah. We used to go see her sometimes, remember?

CHRIS

(Fondly remembering)

Yes I do.

DINA

(Noticing Chris' expression)

Hold on...Chris...you had a crush on Gabrielle?

CHRIS

Yeah. But just for that summer.

GREG

And that was crazy, too. Because Gaby's only like, two years older than us, and remember in high school what happened in our sophomore year?

DINA

I remember that. Gabby liked you, didn't she Chris?

CHRIS

Yeah. But that was the year I really started getting into music production so I was too busy to be interested in girls or anything like that.

SIMON

Yeah, you and I would spend every waking hour when we weren't at school in that studio.

GREG

Did you even know that Gabby liked you, Chris?

CHRIS

I think I was aware of it, but in all honesty; I mean, not to sound like a jerk; but I didn't care. I was just...I don't know, I was looking for

this sound and even when I was asleep,
I would dream about it. I just needed
to make it happen, you know?

DINA

That's right. And it was just after
that when you started writing
originals. Then we all got into it and
began making the slow transition away
from just covers.

SIMON

That it was. But I'm glad the
transition was slow, because that one
show we did at the senior prom was
incredible.

GREG

Yes it was. I think that was when we
really started to master our stage
presence.

DINA

You know, thinking about it all now,
it's amazing how all these little
momentous occasions took so long to
play out, but they all wound up here;
bringing us to all this.

CHRIS

(Thinking about it for a moment)
It's funny, the way things can end up.
And pretty amazing.

Just then, Amanda walks up.

AMANDA

Hey, how is everything?

SIMON

Hey Amanda. It's all great. Really.

DINA

(Jokingly)

Yeah. And he's not just saying that
because he's starving again, either.
This is really good.

AMANDA

(Laughing at Dina's comment, but appreciative at the same time)
Well that's great. I'll be sure to let the kitchen staff know.

Just then, Chris speaks up.

CHRIS

Hey, Amanda?

AMANDA

Yeah?

CHRIS

You said before that one of your favorite songs of ours is "We're Together."

AMANDA

Yes, that's right. I love that song.

CHRIS

Thank you, I appreciate that.

AMANDA

You're welcome.

CHRIS

But...just out of curiosity...why do you like it so much?

AMANDA

Are you kidding? (She sings the chorus for "We're together") "Stand with me, strong forever. Here tonight, we're together. Be with me, now or never. It's all right - we're together. It's all right - we're together." It's just so sincere, you know? I mean, I'm single right now, but I'm also young and I'm in school and all. So I have a lot going on, but I know that I'll find someone at the right time. And when I do...I guess I just really hope he loves me the way you love whoever it is you wrote that song about.

CHRIS
(Thinking attentively about what
Amanda just said)
Wow. Well...thanks for that, Amanda.
And thanks for singing it. You have a
very nice voice.

AMANDA
(Obviously flattered)
Thanks.

CHRIS
No problem. You know, honestly,
knowing that a fan really gets it
means a lot to me.

AMANDA
Well, thank you for writing such a
beautiful song; (She smiles) even if
it wasn't to me.

CHRIS
(Smiling back with appreciation)
You're welcome.

AMANDA
(After thinking for a moment)
Hey, Chris?

CHRIS
Yeah?

AMANDA
If you don't mind me asking...who did
you write it for? Someone very
special, I'm sure.

CHRIS
Oh yeah; very special. Funny thing is,
I wrote it before I knew her. It was
like...I just knew that she and I were
gonna meet.

AMANDA
Wow. Well, I hope she knows how lucky
she is.

CHRIS
(Smiling as he thinks about Jackie)
I'm the lucky one. Not always the
smartest. But definitely lucky.

With that, Amanda and Chris give each other one more friendly smile before Amanda heads back to work and Chris continues his meal.

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - JACKIE'S APARTMENT, LOS ANGELES

Around the end of January, Jackie is sitting in her apartment, going over a script that she got from Megan. Just then, she gets a call from Ron.

JACKIE
(Answering her phone)
Hello?

RON
Hey.

JACKIE
Hey, Ron. How's everything?

RON
Everything is terrific.

JACKIE
Wow. Well that's good. Why is it so terrific?

RON
Well, because the Oscar nominations were just announced.

JACKIE
Really?

RON
Yes. And you know what?

JACKIE
What?

RON
Crack Of Doom got ten.

JACKIE
(Shocked)
What...ten Oscar nominations...seriously?

RON
Seriously. Including Best Picture. And
you know what else?

JACKIE
What?

RON
You got a nomination for Best Actress.

JACKIE
(Sitting down on her couch, trying
to comprehend what Ron told her)
I...got a nomination?

RON
Yes you did.

JACKIE
(Astounded)
I can't believe it.

RON
Why not? You deserve it.

JACKIE
Thanks. I'm just...amazed.

RON
Well I'm not. I'm very happy for you.
But not at all amazed. You're an
excellent actress. (He pauses for a
moment) You gonna tell Chris?

JACKIE
(Thinking about it, obviously
conflicted)
I don't know.

RON
You know the song Odyssey did for the
soundtrack-

JACKIE
-"Thunder Across A Dream..."

RON
-Yeah. That was nominated as well.
Best Song.

JACKIE
Does he know yet?

RON
No. Do you want to tell him?

A few minutes later, Chris gets a call while sitting with his guitar and practicing Odyssey's song, "Towerstar" to himself as he and the rest of the band ride the tour bus.

CHRIS
(Stopping to answer the phone)
Hello?

RON
Hey Chris, it's Ron.

CHRIS
Hey Ron, how are you?

A few minutes later, the members of Odyssey celebrate the news about the Oscar nominations from Ron while Chris ponders the bittersweet nature of the moment, as Jackie sits in her apartment and does the same.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - ALLTEL STADIUM, JACKSONVILLE, FL

A couple of weeks later, on the night of February 6, 2005, Odyssey is being rushed to the stage of the halftime show at Super Bowl XXXIX. With an extended drum intro to Slade's "Run Runaway," playing in the background, Odyssey is heading to the stage to join the legendary Paul McCartney and his band halfway through their set as special last-minute guests. As Sir Paul's longtime drummer, Abraham Laboriel Jr., provides the night's rhythm, Simon joins the rest of his band mates as another guitarist during this performance.

DINA
(As Odyssey is being ushered
toward the stage)
You know, I thought I was just
starting to get used to us being rock
stars! Then this happens!

SIMON
I still can't believe the man himself
invited us to do this - and even to
have us come in to one of our favorite
Slade covers!

GREG

(Not being able to resist the
opportunity to give Simon a hard
time at such an incredible moment)
I don't think any of us can believe
it, Simon - so don't screw up on the
guitar, okay?

SIMON

Screw up?! I've been playing longer
than you have!

CHRIS

(As they reach the stage)
Okay everyone, this is it!

Just then, the four of them stand together at the edge of the
stage as Sir Paul himself introduces them.

PAUL MCCARTNEY

Please welcome, tonight's special
guests, Odyssey!

As Odyssey takes the stage, they join Sir Paul's band in a
rousing cover of "Run Runaway," while the crowd of over
78,000 goes wild. After finishing the cover, they all break
into a spectacular performance of Odyssey's, "Look My Way,"
followed by Paul McCartney and Wings' hit song, "Live And Let
Die," with the show concluded by an amazing performance of
the legendary Beatles' hit, "Hey Jude."

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - DOWN THE STREET FROM THE STAPLES CENTER,
LOS ANGELES

About a week and a half later, Jackie's walking up South
Figueroa Street in Los Angeles when she notices a big crowd
and a lot of cameras outside the Staples Center. Walking a
little further ahead, she stops and talks to a woman on the
outside of the crowd.

JACKIE

Hey, what's going on?

WOMAN

(Quickly looking back at Jackie,
then forward again)
It's the Grammys.

JACKIE
(Realizing that she didn't even
know they were going on that
night)
Oh, cool. Did you see anyone big?

WOMAN
Oh yeah. Lots. Kanye West, Alicia
Keys, Adam Sandler. AC/DC, too.

JACKIE
That is cool.

WOMAN
Yeah. But my favorite was Odyssey.

JACKIE
(Shocked)
Odyssey?!

WOMAN
Yes. I have their new record. I'd love
to see them live.

JACKIE
I didn't even realize they were gonna
be here.

WOMAN
As big as they are right now, I would
have been surprised if they weren't.
(Just then, she looks at Jackie again)
Wait a minute...I know you. Yeah;
you're...Jackie Lyons!

JACKIE
(Flattered, but trying to keep a
low profile)
Yeah, that's me.

WOMAN
Oh, man; wow. Can I get your
autograph?

JACKIE
(Taking a pad and pen the woman is
holding out)
Yeah, sure. But try to keep it quiet,
okay?

WOMAN

(Looking around, then back at Jackie as she signs a piece of paper on the pad)
Yeah, definitely. This is so cool. I loved you in Crack Of Doom.

JACKIE

(With an appreciative smile as she hands the pad and pen back to the woman)
Thanks.

WOMAN

(Taking the pad and pen back)
Thank you. (She then comes to a realization) Hey, I don't mean to get too personal but, aren't you dating Chris Lane or something?

JACKIE

Well...sort of. Not really. I mean, I was. But...it's complicated. That's actually why I didn't even realize Odyssey was gonna be here tonight.

WOMAN

Oh, believe me honey, I get it. Whether you're famous or not, relationships can be more complicated than they're worth.

JACKIE

Yeah, that is true.

WOMAN

Although...if I may say so...I don't know Chris personally. And I don't know what's going on between you guys. But I do know that in the times I've seen you guys in pictures together...

JACKIE

What?

WOMAN

...I've never seen either of you happier.

JACKIE
(Thinking about it for a moment)
Wow. Really?

WOMAN
Yeah, really. Think about it.

Just then, Jackie gets a call. She looks at the woman as she pulls out her cell to answer.

JACKIE
Hey...thanks. It was nice meeting you.

WOMAN
(With a friendly smile)
You too.

At that moment, Jackie answers the call and starts walking away from the Staples Center.

JACKIE
Ron, hi. What's up?

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - BACKSTAGE AT THE GRAMMYS, THE STAPLES CENTER, LOS ANGELES

A short while later, inside the Staples center, Odyssey is backstage, getting ready to perform.

CHRIS
Man, this is awesome.

DINA
You know, I know we paid our dues in Saturday Crossing and all. But I heard that even when you get signed, it can be a struggle in the beginning.

GREG
Yeah, I heard that. too.

SIMON
Well a lot of times, I think that is the way it happens. But we hit it big like, right out of the gate.

CHRIS
Things did happen pretty quick for us, didn't they?

DINA

Yeah. And they've been going ever since.

GREG

Sure have. You won't hear any complaints out of me though.

SIMON

No complaints here, either.

CHRIS

(Thinking about the situation for a moment)

Just the same though...I have to admit, I wish I could share this moment with Jackie.

Just then, Queen Latifah, the hostess for the evening, can be heard presenting Odyssey. Within seconds, the performance begins to a roaring crowd and the band just tears it up with their song, "One For The Road." Minutes later, Chris makes a thrilling introduction.

CHRIS

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome, the legendary, AC/DC!

With that, AC/DC joins Odyssey on stage and the two bands absolutely rock the place together with a performance of AC/DC's hit, "For Those About To Rock."

CUT.

INT. - DAYTIME - RON PORTER'S OFFICE, LOS ANGELES, CA

A couple of weeks later, Jackie is with Ron, Jay and the rest of the cast and crew of Crack Of Doom at Ron Porter's office. As they all sit down, Ron addresses everyone.

RON

Okay everyone. Today is the day. All the effort we put into making this film has led to this. And I just want to tell you all how thankful I am for everything you've done to help make Crack Of Doom what it is.

JAMES

(As everyone else agrees)

We're just as thankful, Ron. This has

been an experience I know I'll never forget.

RON

Okay. (He looks at his watch) Well the Oscars are in just a few hours. You guys all have your tickets?

As everyone answers with a nod or a "yes," Jay speaks up.

JAY

Okay, and we all know what time to get there and when and where to meet. So, are there any last-minute questions?

JACKIE

Is there anything we should or shouldn't say when talking to the media?

JAY

That's a good question, Jackie. And honestly, I'd say just use common sense. You've dealt with them all before at this point. We all have. So just use your head.

RON

Yeah. Just think about if your answers could become any kind of a tabloid headline, and if they could, then avoid them. Just don't tell them anything you wouldn't feel comfortable telling anyone else you don't know, that's all.

JAY

Anything else?

After a couple of moments, no one answers.

RON

Okay. So, we'll see each other tonight.

With that, everyone begins to disperse. In the middle of it, Ron walks up to Jackie.

JACKIE

Hey Ron.

RON

Hey. Listen, you know that Odyssey is gonna be there tonight, right?

JACKIE

Yeah, I know.

RON

Are you gonna be okay with that?

JACKIE

Well, whether or not I am doesn't really matter. We're all gonna be there for a reason, right?

RON

Yeah, that's right. But are you gonna be okay with it?

JACKIE

Yeah. I'll be fine.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - THE ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE KODAK THEATER IN LOS ANGELES

That night, at the 77th Annual Academy Awards ceremony, all of Hollywood is there, dressed for the occasion. As the seemingly endless stream of celebrities, spectators, paparazzi and security makes their way across the red carpet, Jackie arrives with Ron, Jay and some of the other cast and crew of Crack Of Doom. Stepping out of their limo, the group are met with cheers and applause as Jackie looks around. Not seeing Odyssey there yet, she feels a combination of relief and frustration, missing Chris but not really knowing how to feel as she has never stopped questioning herself on their decision to break up.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - THE ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE KODAK THEATER IN LOS ANGELES

A little bit later, Jackie makes her way into the main auditorium. No sooner does she walk in however, than she's met by a familiar face.

EDDIE

(Walking up behind Jackie)

Hey movie star.

JACKIE
(Turning and giving Eddie a hug,
clearly happy to see him)
Hey Eddie. How are you?

EDDIE
Never better. How've you been?

JACKIE
Good. I've been good.

EDDIE
That's good. I saw you in Crack Of
Doom. Great job. Seriously. I always
knew you could do it.

JACKIE
Thank you, Eddie. I appreciate the
encouragement.

EDDIE
Actually, before I forget, I wanted to
ask for a favor. My buddy Sal-

JACKIE
(Excited)
-Sal...Amato? Your bass player with
the Cruisers?

EDDIE
(With a smile of amusement)
Yeah, that's Sal. His son and
daughter-in-law are big fans of Crack
Of Doom. Would you mind if I got your
autograph for them after the show
tonight?

JACKIE
(Even more excited)
Yeah. Wow, of course. That's crazy.
Eddie Wilson asking for me to give Sal
Amato's son and daughter-in-law my
autograph. Man, that's...wow.

EDDIE
(Very appreciative of Jackie's
feelings)
Well thank you. For that, and for
being willing to do the autographs.

JACKIE

No problem.

EDDIE

So...not to bring up any sensitive subjects, but have you seen Chris at all since you've been here?

JACKIE

No, actually, I haven't. Is he here?

EDDIE

Yeah. I was talking to him before. The whole band is here.

JACKIE

That's cool.

EDDIE

I hope I didn't upset you asking that question.

JACKIE

Not at all. Honestly.

EDDIE

Okay, good.

JACKIE

Yeah, Chris and I don't really talk much, but it's not because of any hard feelings or anything. We're just...busy. (She thinks for a moment) That's actually why we broke up in the first place.

EDDIE

Yeah, I get it. (He pauses for a moment) I will say this though...you should talk to him.

JACKIE

You think so?

EDDIE

(With a smile)

I know so.

JACKIE
(After a thoughtful pause and a
smile of realization)
Yeah...I think you're right.

Just then, Ron comes up to Jackie.

RON
Jackie, hey. (He notices that Eddie's
there) Hey Eddie.

EDDIE
Hey Ron. How's it going?

RON
Great. Hectic, but great. You?

EDDIE
No complaints.

RON
I don't mean to interrupt but Jackie,
we have to meet up with everyone else
at our seats. The Ceremony's gonna
start soon.

EDDIE
Yeah, I have to get to my seat as
well.

JACKIE
Okay.

EDDIE
But we'll talk after.

JACKIE
I'm sure. And Eddie...thanks.

EDDIE
(With a smile)
Don't mention it.

With that, all three of them head to their seats.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - THE ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE KODAK
THEATER IN LOS ANGELES

Later on, as Jackie sits with the cast and crew of "Crack Of

Doom," Sean Penn walks out and presents the award for Best Actress. Thinking about everything that's happening and how much she actually does miss being with Chris, she barely even notices when Sean reads the nominees- and announces her as the winner. Suddenly, Jackie's thoughts are interrupted by the applause and the commotion of everyone around her as she quickly realizes that she won. Stepping up to the podium, Jackie still tries to wrap her head around what's happening as she proceeds to give her acceptance speech.

JACKIE

Wow...um. I don't even know what to say. (She laughs nervously) I don't think I actually expected this. (She looks around for a moment, then continues.) Yeah. Well...you know...sometimes, life hits you when you least expect it. And that's what happened to me. One year ago, I was a new girl in a small town, and now, here I am. I just want to say thank you first and foremost to God for this incredible opportunity, to my family back home, to Ron and Jay - two amazing filmmakers, to James and my other fantastic co-stars, to Odyssey for always being behind me as all this was happening, to all the rest of the cast and crew, to everyone at Universal...(She pauses momentarily, then continues) The character of Mindy Brooks in Crack Of Doom is an amazing creation of Ron Porter's because she shows how, regardless of what the circumstances are, regardless of whether they're positive or negative, you can be inspired by pretty much anything. All it takes is that one moment. For Mindy, it was a moment of tragedy that inspired her to stand up when the world needed her to. For me, it was a moment of love that allowed me to become what someone else needed...and they, in turn, inspired me in a way that led me here. And I cannot even begin to express how grateful I am for that - and just how important that inspiration really, truly is to me. Thank you.

As Jackie is led off the stage, Chris is standing backstage

on the other side with Odyssey, obviously having heard everything Jackie said.

CUT.

INT. - NIGHTTIME - THE ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE KODAK THEATER IN LOS ANGELES

A short time later, Jackie's sitting with the cast and crew of Crack Of Doom, looking at her Oscar and still trying to comprehend that she really did just win. Not paying attention to what the next presenter says, her focus is only interrupted when the lights go down and the sounds of air raid sirens and marching feet fill the auditorium. Looking up, she watches, along with the rest of the audience, as scores of performers dressed in hostile regime uniforms from Crack Of Doom descend on the crowd, then stop as if to seize control of the room. Just then, music begins, starting with just a catchy drum rhythm that goes on for probably about twelve measures. Suddenly, Jackie realizes that Odyssey is playing on stage, with Dina, Greg and Simon wearing ILF uniforms, but Chris doesn't seem to be there. Moments later however, Chris walks up into the crowd from just below center stage, also dressed in an ILF uniform and holding his guitar while wearing a headset mic. Immediately, he lights up Odyssey's spectacular performance of their Oscar-nominated song, "Thunder Across A Dream," as featured in Crack Of Doom.

CHRIS
EVERYBODY WHO LOVES FREEDOM, STAND TO
YOUR FEET!

As everyone in the auditorium immediately stands up and begins rocking out to Odyssey's performance, Chris thrills the crowd up-close through the first two verses and the chorus of the song, but then makes his way over to Jackie during Dina's guitar solo and sings the third verse right to her - a verse proclaiming a future of predestined love - after the guitar solo ends. Moments later, Chris takes Jackie by the hand and leads her onto the stage where they sing together, finishing the song with the rest of the band as the scores of performers also take their place onstage behind the band and rip their regime uniforms off, revealing themselves as dancers in ILF uniforms, symbolizing how the world turns against the hostile regime in the movie and takes their freedom back, as the crowd continues moving to the music and taking in every moment of the electrifying performance.

CUT.

EXT. - NIGHTTIME - THE OUTSIDE OF THE ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY
AT THE KODAK THEATER IN LOS ANGELES

Later on, as crowds of onlookers, celebrities, security guards and members of the media make their way through the exciting scene outside the Kodak Theater, Odyssey, Jackie, Eddie Wilson, Mike Soriello, Megan Wagner and Ron Porter all stand together discussing everything that's going on.

MIKE

Well, that was quite a show.

RON

(As he holds two Oscars)
That it was. (He looks at the members of Odyssey) You guys sure made an impression tonight.

CHRIS

(As he holds the Oscar that Odyssey won for Best Song)
Yeah, maybe we did. But I think it's safe to say that our inspiration really came through this evening.

JACKIE

(As everyone turns to her)
What...me?

CHRIS

Jackie, you said in your acceptance speech that I inspired you.

JACKIE

Yes. But you knew that already.

CHRIS

True. But that only happened because of everything you've been to us.

JACKIE

Oh, come on. You guys are incredibly talented.

DINA

But talent needs inspiration. And the way you've affected Chris is what led us all over that threshold and into where we are now.

GREG

That's right, movie star. You might not be on stage with us every night, but you are an important member of the Odyssey family.

SIMON

So get used to it, Jackie. We need each other - and I don't think anyone in this band would have it any other way.

Just then, one of the show's producers comes up to them.

PRODUCER

Hey guys, listen; I don't want to impose on you, but everyone is still buzzing from that performance before, so I was wondering, would you be willing to play a little something for the crowd out here?

CHRIS

(After everyone looks at each other and smiles)
Why not? Let's have some fun.

As everyone in Odyssey's party starts making their way to the street amid cheers and applause from the crowds, Jackie leans in closely to Chris and takes his hand.

JACKIE

Hey; so, um, just how close of a family member am I to you guys?

CHRIS

(He looks at her and smiles)
Closer to some than others.

JACKIE

(With a smile)
Oh, really?

CHRIS

Yeah - but we can talk more about that in a little while.

With that, the group continues making their way to the street as Chris takes a box with an engagement ring in it and subtly places it securely into his inside jacket pocket.

CUT.

END CREDITS.

