

Your Bedtime Song

Screenplay by

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"A small world where people know each other, and still so deep, able to get lost." - Anthony Liccione

FADE IN:

INT. DINING AREA-DINER-DAY

SUPER: NEW YORK, DECEMBER 1990

Patron of CUSTOMERS surround the bar table.

A young woman pours coffee into a *mug*. DESTINY "JITTERBUG" ROLLINS, 20. A high school dropout. Driven and naive.

Jitterbug steps towards the bar table. She sets the mug down.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-DINER-DAY

JITTERBUG

You can do this. You're going to
get on that plane and not look
back!

She turns to the door and pulls it open.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

Here we go!

CUT TO:

INT. DINING AREA-DINER-CONTINUOUS

Jitterbug steps through the dining area, and heads straight for the front door. She gently pushes on the door, trying to avoid ringing the bell.

The bell sounds.

The Customers look back at her.

JITTERBUG

(blow kiss)
So long!!

CUSTOMERS

Later Jitterbug!!!

She smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. DINER-DAY

Jitterbug zips up her jacket.

JITTERBUG
Burr!! It's cold out here!

A car horn sounds.

The passenger door to a station wagon opens. A young man stands up and steps towards her. STEVIE, 18. High school senior. Kind, loving and protective.

STEVIE
You're really going to leave me here with this crazy man?

JITTERBUG
Yeah.

STEVIE
(shakes head)
Uh huh!

A man stands over the hood of the station wagon. ROGER, 40. Strict, demanding but caring.

ROGER
Come on! We have to go!

JITTERBUG
Dad!
(wave)

Roger lowers himself to the driver seat.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
(breath)
Silent treatment.

STEVIE
Come on.

Stevie walks her towards the back door.

She pulls the door open.

CUT TO:

EXT. AIRPORT-NIGHT

Jitterbug steps towards the entrance doors of the airport. She looks back at Stevie.

JITTERBUG
(wave)
Bye!!

Her eyes on Roger.

Roger sits down.

Jitterbug looks back at the front doors.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Bye, dad.

CUT TO:

INT. PASSENGER CABIN-NIGHT

Jitterbug sits by the window. The small pillow under her head. She rests her head and closes her eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM-DERBY-NIGHT-FLASHBACK

A young girl dances around on the stage, a *microphone* in her hand. 10-YEAR-OLD JITTERBUG. A charismatic, fun-loving girl.

A woman stands in front of her. CLAIRE, 31. Waitress. Protective, kind and encouraging.

CLAIRE
(clap)
That's right baby girl!

Together, sitting on the end of the stage, Claire and 10-Year-Old Jitterbug sit. A *polaroid camera* in Claire's hands. She presses the button and takes the picture.

The flash goes off.

CUT TO:

INT. PASSENGER CABIN-BACK TO PRESENT

Jitterbug opens her eyes. She looks around.

CUT TO:

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX-DAY

Jitterbug looks at the apartment complex.

JITTERBUG
Home sweet home!

She steps closer.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-JITTERBUG'S APARTMENT-DAY

Jitterbug digs her hands through a box. She lifts a **candle** up and puts it close to her nose.

JITTERBUG
(sniff)
Thanks mom!

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-JITTERBUG'S APARTMENT-DAY

She tosses a **sheet** over a **queen-sized bed**. Jitterbug covers the mattress with a **comforter**.

JITTERBUG
There we go!

She flips over to her back.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
(breath)

CUT TO:

EXT. PAYPHONE-NIGHT

She rips a **restaurant page** from the **business phone book**, the receiver in the grip of her hand. Jitterbug goes down the line of phone numbers.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING AREA-CHINESE RESTAURANT-NIGHT

The front door to the Chinese restaurant opens.

Jitterbug steps in.

RESTAURANT OWNER, 30s.

Jitterbug steps to the counter.

RESTAURANT OWNER
Can I help you?

JITTERBUG
Yes, I ordered some food.

RESTAURANT OWNER
The name?

JITTERBUG
Jitterbug.

RESTAURANT OWNER
Jitterbug?

JITTERBUG
Yes!

The Restaurant Owner turns around and reaches to the top shelf and grabs a **paper bag**. He looks at the tag.

RESTAURANT OWNER
(read)
Jitterbug.

He hands her the bag.

JITTERBUG
How much?

RESTAURANT OWNER
Sixteen-fifty.

Jitterbug reaches into her pants pocket and pulls out a twenty dollar-bill.

JITTERBUG
Here you go!

He takes it.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Keep the change!

She looks around the restaurant.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Can I eat this here?

RESTAURANT OWNER
Sure. Pick a table.

Jitterbug steps towards a booth. She sits.

The front door opens.

A young girl steps in. She steps towards the Restaurant Owner. BRITTNEY, 17. Ballet dancer. A lonely and repressed girl living on her own.

Brittney leans herself against the counter.

RESTAURANT OWNER (CONT'D)
Can I help you?

BRITTNEY
Yes, can I get a combination plate
of rice and noodles?

RESTAURANT OWNER
Meat?

BRITTNEY
General Tsao's.

RESTAURANT OWNER
Dine in or out?

BRITTNEY
In.

RESTAURANT OWNER
Twelve.

Brittney reaches into her purse. She digs through it, becoming frightened she can't find her cash.

BRITTNEY
I have it!

A hand drops down in front of her. Twelve dollars in cash set down on the counter.

Brittney looks at Jitterbug.

JITTERBUG
That should cover it.

Jitterbug steps towards the booth.

The Restaurant Owner takes the cash. He hands her a **receipt**.

Brittney grabs a **plastic fork** from the counter. She walks over to the booth.

BRITTNEY

Hey?

Jitterbug looks at her.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)

Thank you.

JITTERBUG

Well, everyone needs a little help.

Brittney looks at the empty seat across from Jitterbug.

BRITTNEY

Can I?

JITTERBUG

Sure.

Jitterbug moves the paper bag from the top of the table. She digs her spoon into the **carton** of **fried rice**.

BRITTNEY

What's your name?

JITTERBUG

It's Destiny but my friends call me Jitterbug.

BRITTNEY

Jitterbug?

JITTERBUG

Yeap.

RESTAURANT OWNER

General Tsao's!!

Brittney stands up and rushes to the counter. She grabs her plate and steps back towards the table.

JITTERBUG

(laugh)

Her plate in the palm of her hand, Brittney sits.

BRITTNEY
Thanks. I am starved!

JITTERBUG
That workout built up an appetite.

BRITTNEY
You better believe it.

She digs her fork into the General Tsao's chicken.

CUT TO:

EXT. CHINESE RESTAURANT-NIGHT

Outside the front door, Jitterbug steps out. She holds the door open for Brittney.

BRITTNEY
Thanks.

Jitterbug steps towards the corner.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)
Jitterbug?

She looks back at Brittney.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)
Can I get your number?

JITTERBUG
I don't have a phone.

BRITTNEY
How am I supposed to pay you back?

JITTERBUG
(wave)
Don't worry about it.

BRITTNEY
Maybe I'll see you around.

JITTERBUG
Yeah.

BRITTNEY
You have a good night.

JITTERBUG
You too.

Brittney steps down the sidewalk.

Jitterbug crosses the street.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-JITTERBUG'S APARTMENT-DAY

Underneath the *comforter*, Jitterbug sits up in bed.

JITTERBUG
(breath)

She switches off the light.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING AREA-DINER-DAY

Her hand resting against her chin and her other hand on the table.

DINER MANAGER, 30s.

The Diner Manager looks at Jitterbug.

DINER MANAGER
How soon can you start?

JITTERBUG
As soon as possible.

The sound of the bell sounds.

CHEF, 40s.

CHEF
Order up!

Jitterbug grabs the plate.

JITTERBUG
Ah!!

She drops it!

CHEF
Ahh!!

JITTERBUG
I'm sorry!

Diner Manager looks down at the shattered plate.

Jitterbug looks at him.

DINER MANAGER
Clean it up!

She picks up the pieces.

Mug after mug, Jitterbug pours coffee and walks into WAITRESS #1, spilling coffee on her and Waitress #1.

WAITRESS #1
Ahh! Watch what you're doing!

JITTERBUG
I'm sorry!

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-DINER-DAY

JITTERBUG
(sob)
(cry)

Jitterbug wipes her eyes.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS-DAY

Bundled up, feeling embarrassed and humiliated, Jitterbug walks to the crosswalk.

Brittney steps towards her.

BRITTNEY
We meet again.

Jitterbug looks at Brittney, feeling relieved. She smiles.

JITTERBUG
Small world.

BRITTNEY
I agree.

Brittney looks at her **apron**.

JITTERBUG
I see you found you're dream job.

BRITTNEY
Don't count on it.

Jitterbug takes the apron off. She tosses it to the ground.
Brittney looks at the apron as it falls.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)
Okay!

Brittney thinks to herself, an idea comes to her.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)
Come with me!

Brittney steps across the street.

JITTERBUG
Where?

CUT TO:

INT. LAB-DAY

A lab full of printing materials, **cutting boards** and **lamination machines**. A **camera** aimed in Jitterbug's direction as she sits. A young man presses the camera in front of his eye. SAM, 16. High school student. A resourceful and accomplished young man.

The camera flashes.

JITTERBUG
(squints eyes)

She covers her eyes.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
How long until it's ready?

SAM
A couple of hours.

JITTERBUG
How much is it?

SAM
Thirty.

Jitterbug reaches into her pocket and pulls out a ten and twenty dollar-bill. She hands it to him.

JITTERBUG
There you go.

He takes it.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Can I wait here?

SAM
I think you shouldn't. Go grab
yourself something to eat.

JITTERBUG
Fine.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS-DAY

Her back against a fence, eating a *burrito*.

JITTERBUG
Mmhmm --

CUT TO:

INT. LAB-CONTINUOUS

SAM
Here you go!

Jitterbug takes it. She looks at the fake ID.

JITTERBUG
Nice work.

She looks at him.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Pleasure doing business with you.

Jitterbug shakes his hand.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS-DAY

The fake ID in her hand.

Brittney looks at it. A smile on her face.

BRITTNEY
 (laugh)
 Looks good.

Jitterbug looks closer at it. She slides it into her pocket.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)
 Here we come people!!

CUT TO:

EXT. THE DERBY-NIGHT

Brittney steps towards the doors to the Derby. She looks at her watch.

BRITTNEY
 Where is she?

JITTERBUG (O.C.)
 Right here!

Brittney looks at her. Her eyes stunned.

BRITTNEY
 I thought we were only dancing here.

JITTERBUG
 I had other plans.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING AREA-THE DERBY-NIGHT

The door opens.

Jitterbug steps in. She holds the door open for Brittney.

Brittney steps in.

BRITTNEY
 Wow!

Brittney looks around.

JITTERBUG
 Come on!

Jitterbug grabs a hold of her hand and pulls her towards the bar table, going through the large crowd of people.

BRITTNEY
Slow down!!

BARTENDER, 40s.

JITTERBUG
Excuse me?

BARTENDER
Yes?

JITTERBUG
What do I have to do to sing?

BRITTNEY
What?

BARTENDER
Buy a drink.

JITTERBUG
Okay. Two shots of **whiskey**, please?

BARTENDER
Sure. ID?

Jitterbug hands him her fake ID.

He looks at it, carefully making sure it's officially real.

BARTENDER (CONT'D)
Okay.

He grabs two **shot glasses** and pours the whiskey.

Jitterbug takes the shot. She slams it down.

JITTERBUG
(gulp)

She takes the second shot.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
(shakes head)
(gulp)

Jitterbug sets a twenty down on the bar table.

Brittney looks at her with concern.

BRITTNEY
Jeez!

JITTERBUG
I'm up barkeep!

Jitterbug steps up to the stage, grabs a microphone and steps up to a man sitting in front of the piano. DEAN, 21. Musician. Goal orientated, self-centered and conceited.

The microphone in the palm of her hand. Jitterbug looks back at Dean.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
(sing)
LEFT ME IN THE HANDS OF MY LONELY
MOTHER, NOW YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I
CAN'T BE BOTHERED, FOUND HER
TELEPHONE NUMBER ON YOUR KITCHEN
COUNTER.

Amazement in Dean's eyes.

DEAN
Holy shit!

JITTERBUG
(sing)
PLAYING HER, PLAYING ME, KILLING
HER, KILLING ME, LIKE BEDTIME BABY.

Brittney sips from the shot glass. Her eyes on Jitterbug.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE DERBY-NIGHT

Outside the Derby, Brittney and Dean assist Jitterbug outside.

Jitterbug looks at Dean.

JITTERBUG
Who are you?

DEAN
Dean, the musician.

She looks at Brittney.

JITTERBUG
Do you know him?

Brittney looks at Dean.

BRITTNEY
Yeah. He's a nice guy.

Brittney raises her arm up.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)
(wave)
Taxi!!!

JITTERBUG
Taxi!!!
(wave)

A taxi parks at the curb.

BRITTNEY
I got it from here, thank you.

Dean rushes to the back door of the taxi. He pulls it open.

Brittney sits Jitterbug down.

Dean looks Jitterbug in the eyes.

DEAN
I hope to see you again.

He looks at Brittney.

DEAN (CONT'D)
Can you tell her for me?

BRITTNEY
Okay.

Brittney slams the door shut. She steps around to the other door.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)
Good night.

Brittney sits.

CUT TO:

INT. TAXI-NIGHT

Brittney slams the door shut.

TAXI DRIVER, 30s.

TAXI DRIVER
Ready?

BRITTNEY

Yeah.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-PENTHOUSE-NIGHT

In the spare bedroom, Jitterbug lays asleep.

Brittney covers her with a blanket.

BRITTNEY

Good night.

Brittney stands up and steps towards the doorway. She looks back at Jitterbug.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)

See you in the morning!

She flips the light switch off and walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN-PENTHOUSE-DAY

An *egg* drops to a *frying pan*.

Brittney smiles. She flips the egg over.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM-PENTHOUSE-DAY

Jitterbug slowly steps towards the kitchen.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN-PENTHOUSE-CONTINUOUS

A complete *bagel breakfast sandwich* resting on a plate.

Jitterbug steps into the kitchen.

Brittney looks at her.

BRITTNEY

Good morning.

JITTERBUG
Good morning! Uh!

Jitterbug touches her head, feeling the effects of the hangover she's experiencing at the moment.

BRITTNEY
Breakfast?

JITTERBUG
Uh!

Brittney hands her a glass of whiskey.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
What's this?

BRITTNEY
Hair of the dog that bit you.

Jitterbug takes the glass.

JITTERBUG
(gulp)

She sets the glass down.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
How'd everything go?

BRITTNEY
You were great.

JITTERBUG
Really!

BRITTNEY
The people loved you.

JITTERBUG
I didn't expect that.

Brittney pours herself a cup of coffee.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
I better get home.

She looks at Brittney.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Thank you for bringing me here.

BRITTNEY
No problem.

JITTERBUG
 Maybe we can do it again.

BRITTNEY
 I'm going to be a little busy.
 Dance practice and stuff.

JITTERBUG
 What kind of dancing?

BRITTNEY
 Ballet.

JITTERBUG
 Cool.

Brittney takes a sip from the mug.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
 Well, see ya!

Jitterbug steps out of the kitchen.

BRITTNEY
 Bye.
 (wave)

CUT TO:

INT. DANCE STUDIO-DAY

Her leg on the *ballet balance beam*, Brittney leans her body and head on the strongest leg.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-DANCE STUDIO-DAY

Brittney dries her hair with a towel, looking at herself in the mirror. She smiles at herself, feeling accomplished.

BRITTNEY
 You're a winner.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS-DAY

Her feet stepping across the crosswalk, Jitterbug looks around.

CUT TO:

INT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-DAY

Dean keeps his foot on the gas pedal. He looks and sees Jitterbug. A sudden urge goes through him, causing him to stop the dodge challenger. He turns the steering wheel to his left.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS-CONTINUOUS

The roaring engine of the dodge challenger blares.

Jitterbug looks, leaning her head down to look at who's behind the wheel.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-DAY

He rolls the window down.

DEAN

Hey! Remember me!

Jitterbug steps towards the passenger door, leaning herself into the open window.

JITTERBUG

Am I supposed to?

DEAN

Come on, baby!

JITTERBUG

Baby?

Jitterbug steps away from the dodge challenger.

He turns the key in the ignition and pulls it out.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS-CONTINUOUS

Her anger in her walk, storming away.

Dean rushes towards Jitterbug.

DEAN
I'm sorry okay!

JITTERBUG
(wave)
Stop yourself before --

DEAN
-- Can we start over, please!

JITTERBUG
(breath)

He reaches his hand out for hers.

DEAN
My name is Dean, I'm a Scorpio and
I like to make music!

A smile stretches across her face.

JITTERBUG
(laugh)

She shakes his hand.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Jitterbug.

DEAN
Nice!

He looks around and looks back at her.

DEAN (CONT'D)
Hungry?

CUT TO:

INT. LIMOUSINE-DAY

Brittney sits. She looks outside the window and sees Jitterbug with Dean. She looks straight ahead.

BRITTNEY
Such a small world.

CUT TO:

EXT. PATIO-RESTAURANT-DAY

Jitterbug takes a big bite out of the **cheeseburger** in the grasp of her hands.

A **cigarette** in the tips of his fingers.

DEAN
Have you ever been to a recording studio?

She swallows her food.

JITTERBUG
No. How do I get into one?

DEAN
You pay or I pay. One of us pays.

JITTERBUG
How much?

DEAN
\$350-\$400. More!

Jitterbug wipes her face off with a **napkin**.

JITTERBUG
Thanks for the burger.

She stands to her feet and steps away from the table.

DEAN
I have the money!

Jitterbug looks back at him.

DEAN (CONT'D)
I just need to hear you sing on command!

JITTERBUG
(sing)
YOU WANT ME, YOU GOT TO PAY ME, YOU
WANT ME, YOU GOT TO FEED ME, SO
LET'S GO OUT TONIGHT!!

Jitterbug steps onto the picnic table.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

(sing)

IF YOU ONLY KNEW, WHAT WAS ON MY
MIND, YOU RUN LIKE THE DOG THAT YOU
ARE!

Dean smiles.

PATRONS gather around.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

(sing)

YOU WANT ME, YOU GOT TO PAY ME, YOU
WANT ME, LET'S GO OUT TONIGHT!

PATRONS

(applause)

The Patrons drop dollar bills at her feet.

JITTERBUG

Thank you, you're too kind people!

Dean stands to his feet. He reaches his hand out for hers.

She grabs a hold.

He helps her down from the top of the table.

Jitterbug collects all the money. She hands it to him.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

There's a down payment.

She steps away from him.

DEAN

How about tonight?

Jitterbug looks back at him.

JITTERBUG

I was joking.

DEAN

I wasn't. Dinner and a track? What
do you say?

JITTERBUG

You're going to be broke.

DEAN

You're worth it.

Jitterbug smiles. She steps towards the dodge challenger.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-DAY

He presses his foot on the brake pedal, stopping in front of Jitterbug's apartment building.

DEAN

Nice place you got here.

JITTERBUG

Thanks.

She pushes the passenger door open.

DEAN

I'll pick you up at eight.

Jitterbug stands up. She shuts the door.

His eyes on her as she walks up the steps. Dean presses his foot on the gas pedal.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-JITTERBUG'S APARTMENT-DAY

In the middle of the floor, sitting, going through her collection of **records**.

She comes across one, staring at the cover.

JITTERBUG

Perfect!

Jitterbug sets the record on the wheel of the **record player**. She sets the **needle** down.

The record sounds. "Hold On" by En Vogue plays.

Jitterbug dances. She spins herself towards the bathroom.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-JITTERBUG'S APARTMENT-NIGHT

Jitterbug stands in front of the mirror, flat ironing her hair with a **flat iron**, making it wavy.

MONTAGE

-- Jitterbug puts on a dress.

-- Jitterbug puts on lipstick.

-- Jitterbug sprays perfume.

BACK TO SCENE

She finishes putting *mascara* over her eyes.

A car horn sounds.

Jitterbug looks at the door.

JITTERBUG
I'm coming!

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-NIGHT

He looks at himself in the rear-view mirror, brushing his hair back with the tips of his fingers.

DEAN
You look good man!

Jitterbug steps towards the passenger door.

Dean looks up and down at her.

DEAN (CONT'D)
Wow!

JITTERBUG
What? Is the dress too much?

DEAN
No. It's just right.

Jitterbug smiles. She opens the passenger door.

JITTERBUG
Where to?

Her hand closes the door.

DEAN
It's a surprise.

JITTERBUG

Okay.

He turns the key in the ignition.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)

Can you take this off now?

CUT TO:

INT. LOBBY-RECORDING STUDIO-NIGHT

A red ribbon wrapped around her eyes. Jitterbug steps slowly into the lobby.

Dean stands behind her, guiding her in with his hands on her hips.

JITTERBUG

Can I take this off?

DEAN

Not yet.

He walks her into the sound booth.

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-NIGHT

Dean takes the ribbon off from over her eyes.

DEAN

Surprise!

Jitterbug looks at the sound booth. She looks at him.

JITTERBUG

Is this --

DEAN

It's not mine. I got the studio
time paid.

(point)

I got you dinner too.

She looks at the cartons of **Chinese food** resting on a **tray**.

DEAN (CONT'D)

Hungry?

JITTERBUG

Yes.

Dean sets a blanket down on the wooden floor. He reaches for her hand.

Jitterbug grabs a hold.

He helps her down, sitting beside her.

DEAN

Chow Mein?

JITTERBUG

Yes, please.

Dean hands her a carton.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-PENTHOUSE-NIGHT

Sitting on her bed, flipping through channels, eating **rocky road ice cream**. The spoon halfway in her mouth. She hits the power button on the remote and tosses it to the floor.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN-PENTHOUSE-NIGHT

Brittney steps towards the sink. She sets the bowl down and rinses it out.

BRITTNEY

So much for a Friday night with
your friends.

She steps out of the kitchen.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-PENTHOUSE-NIGHT

Brittney covers herself with her comforter, laying her head back into the pillows.

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-NIGHT

Jitterbug sets her carton of Chow mein down.

DEAN
Are you ready?

Feeling nervous, Jitterbug looks around. She looks at the microphone.

JITTERBUG
I don't know.

DEAN
You did it before at the restaurant.

JITTERBUG
Yeah, but I was in my head.

Dean thinks about what she said.

DEAN
That's it!

Jitterbug looks around, as if she sees what he's imagining.

JITTERBUG
What?

He reaches for her hands.

She grabs a hold.

He pulls her up.

The headphones over her ears and the microphone in front of her mouth.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM-STUDIO-NIGHT

Dean turns the nobs on the *control table*.

The beats sound.

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

Jitterbug looks around, hearing the beats.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

Dean shuts off the beats.

DEAN
What's wrong?

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

JITTERBUG
Shouldn't I write something before
I sing it?

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

DEAN
Hold on!

Dean turns to the empty desk, sits down and grabs a **pen**. He thinks to himself. A smile stretches across his face as he gets an idea.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)
(sing)
I HEARD DOVES SINGING, I HEARD YOU
WEEPING, YOUR HEART CLINGING

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

JITTERBUG
(sing)
I FOUND LOVE IN YOUR HEART RINGING.

CUT TO:

INT. LOBBY-RECORDING STUDIO-NIGHT

Dean carries Jitterbug to the sofa. He sets a pillow underneath her head. He covers her with his jacket.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)
(sing)
I FOUND YOU WHISTLING.

Dean kisses her on the forehead.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-DAY

A man sitting behind a desk, his mind on the song playing on his **radio**. SEAN, 32. Record producer. Strict and bold.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)
(sing)
WHISTLING FOR ME TO SING.

He presses the **stop button**.

SEAN
Where'd you find this girl?

DEAN
At the Derby.

SEAN
And you wrote that?

DEAN
Yes.

SEAN
Wow.

DEAN
Wow good or bad?

SEAN
Good.

DEAN
Are you going to sign her?

Sean thinks about it.

CUT TO:

INT. LOBBY-RECORDING STUDIO-DAY

She signs her name at the bottom of a contract; Jitterbug stands up and shakes Sean's hand.

SEAN

Now all your dreams are going to
come true.

CUT TO:

INT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-DAY

Her hand waving in the air as she feels the wind blowing against her skin, feeling the coolness. Jitterbug closes her eyes.

DEAN

How are you feeling?

JITTERBUG

Good.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

A fresh, brand-new white carpeted living room.

Jitterbug looks around, her eyes in disbelief.

Dean stands behind her.

JITTERBUG

This is all mine.

DEAN

All yours.

He lifts a **key** up.

She turns to him, her eyes on the key, reaching for it.

Dean pulls it away, teasing her.

Jitterbug reaches for it.

He kisses her.

She pulls back, looking at him, feeling surprised.

DEAN (CONT'D)

Sorry.

JITTERBUG

Why.

Jitterbug kisses him.

To the floor, she drops down to her back.

Dean climbs on top of her, kissing her.

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-DAY

JITTERBUG (V.O.)

(sing)

DOES YOUR HEART STILL BEAT FOR ME,
DOES YOUR LOVE STILL FLOW FOR ME.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM-WEDDING CHAPEL-NIGHT

JITTERBUG (V.O.)

(sing)

DOES THE DOVE STILL SING FOR US.

Jitterbug stands in front of the mirror.

MONTAGE

-- Jitterbug puts on lipstick.

-- Jitterbug puts on perfume.

-- Jitterbug puts mascara on around her eyes.

BACK TO SCENE

Jitterbug backs away from the mirror, looking at her **wedding dress**.

JITTERBUG

You look beautiful.

Dean steps behind her, hugging her from behind. He kisses her neck.

DEAN
You do look beautiful.

She kisses him back.

JITTERBUG
Don't you know it's bad luck to see
the bride before the wedding?

DEAN
I guess I don't believe in that.

He kisses her again.

CUT TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM-WEDDING CHAPEL-NIGHT

Their hands holding onto each other, Dean slides a ring onto her finger. Jitterbug slides a ring onto his.

CUT TO:

EXT. GROCERY STORE-DAY

SUPER: TWO WEEKS LATER

In the check-out stand. A *magazine* in her hands. Brittney looks in shock as she sees Jitterbug's face on the cover with Dean's. It reads: Music producer marries singer. GROCERY GIRL, early teens. A Grocery Girl steps towards the check-out stand.

GROCERY GIRL
Excuse me?

BRITTNEY
Yes?

GROCERY GIRL
Are you in line?

BRITTNEY
No.

The Grocery Girl looks at the magazine.

GROCERY GIRL
Shame, isn't it?

BRITTNEY
What?

GROCERY GIRL

He marries a singer after he breaks
it off with his other popstar.

Brittney sets the magazine on the **rack**.

BRITTNEY

Which popstar?

GROCERY GIRL

Sierra.

BRITTNEY

Really?

GROCERY GIRL

Yes.

Brittney steps towards the exit doors.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN-MANSION-DAY

Her hands deep into the water of the sink, Jitterbug sets
plate after plate into the **dishwasher**.

The doorbell rings.

She dries her hands on a **dish towel** and tosses it to the
countertop.

The doorbell rings again.

JITTERBUG

Coming!

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

Jitterbug opens the door.

Brittney stands in front of her.

JITTERBUG

Brittney? I was going to call you.
How did you find me?

BRITTNEY

I asked around.

She steps aside.

JITTERBUG
Please, come in!

Brittney steps in.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)
I'm sorry I didn't invite you to
the wedding, we just eloped.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN-MANSION-CONTINUOUS

Brittney takes a sip from a mug. She sits on a stool.

Jitterbug looks at her, feeling puzzled.

JITTERBUG
Why are you here?

BRITTNEY
You're my friend and I wouldn't
tell you anything unless it was the
truth.

She gets an annoyed look on her face.

JITTERBUG
What are you getting at?

BRITTNEY
Come on, Jitterbug, you only knew
this Dean guy for a month, and you
married him.

Jitterbug touches her stomach.

JITTERBUG
And we're expecting.

Brittney looks at her stomach.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Is that it?

BRITTNEY
Did he tell you he was dating the
popstar Sierra. A seventeen-year-
old girl.

JITTERBUG

What!

BRITTNEY

He was. He was right before he met you.

JITTERBUG

You're lying!

BRITTNEY

I don't lie.

Jitterbug steps towards the sink.

JITTERBUG

I think it's time for you to leave.

Brittney gets off the stool. She steps towards the living room.

BRITTNEY

I'm sorry.

She steps away.

JITTERBUG

(sob)

(cry)

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Her head resting on the pillow, Jitterbug looks at the digital clock. She grabs the **cordless phone** from the nightstand, dials in a phone number and presses it against her ear.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-RECORDING STUDIO-NIGHT

A woman sits on the edge of Dean's desk. ALEXIS, 20. Secretary. A naive and dimwitted woman. He kisses her neck while he tugs at the back of her **bra**, attempting to unhook it.

DEAN

Fuck it!

The radio plays. "I Wanna Sex You Up" by Color Me Badd plays.

Dean reaches underneath her dress, yanking her **panties** down to her ankles.

Alexis unbuckles his belt. She pulls his boxers down along with his pants.

He presses himself up against her.

ALEXIS
(moan)

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

The phone rings.

Stevie grabs the receiver. He presses it to his ear.

STEVIE
Hello?

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Jitterbug wipes her eyes.

JITTERBUG
(sniffle)
Stevie! Hi!

STEVIE (V.O.)
Destiny?

JITTERBUG
Yeah!

STEVIE (V.O.)
Are you alright? You sound like you
been crying.

JITTERBUG
I'm fine.

STEVIE
It's kind of late.

JITTERBUG
I know. I just wanted to hear your
voice. How's dad?

STEVIE (V.O.)
Dad's fine. He's just sleeping.

JITTERBUG
Look, maybe you guys can come out
here, and see the house.

STEVIE (V.O.)
Yeah! I look forward to it.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-CONTINUOUS

JITTERBUG (V.O.)
Maybe on Spring Break.

STEVIE
Sure.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)
Good night.

STEVIE
Good night.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)
I love you.

STEVIE
I love you too, sis.

He hangs up the receiver.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-CONTINUOUS

She ends the call. Her head drops to the pillow.

JITTERBUG
(sob)
(cry)

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-RECORDING STUDIO-NIGHT

Her butt pressed against his groin; Dean goes back and forth.

ALEXIS
(pant)

CUT TO:

EXT. MANSION-NIGHT

Dean steps towards the front door. He looks back at the limousine driving away.

DEAN
(wave)
Good night!

He pushes the door open.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Dean steps into the bedroom. He sits at the edge of the bed.

JITTERBUG (O.C.)
It took you long enough.

He looks back at Jitterbug.

She turns the **lamp** on.

DEAN
I thought you would be asleep.

JITTERBUG
I couldn't sleep.

He takes off his socks.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Are you sleeping around?

DEAN
Don't be ridicules!

Jitterbug stands to her feet. She steps towards him.

JITTERBUG
I can smell the perfume on you!

She punches him in the back.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Tell me now!!

Dean swings his fists into her cheek.

Jitterbug falls to the floor. Her eyes in shock.

DEAN

Babe! I'm --

JITTERBUG

-- Don't -- Get away!

Jitterbug rushes to the bathroom.

The door slams shut.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Her eyes on the mirror, staring back at herself.

Blood streams down her leg.

Jitterbug looks down.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-CONTINUOUS

The door to the bathroom opens.

Jitterbug steps out into the bedroom.

JITTERBUG

I -- Need --

She looks around, and there is no sign of Dean.

CUT TO:

INT. PATIENT ROOM-HOSPITAL-DAY

Jitterbug's eyes are closed, resting her head on the pillow.

Brittney steps towards her. She touches her hand.

Jitterbug opens her eyes. She smiles at the sight of Brittney's face.

JITTERBUG

You came.

Brittney sits.

BRITTNEY
What happened?

JITTERBUG
He hit me.

BRITTNEY
What!

JITTERBUG
I confronted him and he --

BRITTNEY
Shh! You're alright now.

Jitterbug sits up. She wraps her arms around Brittney, hugging her.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)
We're going to get you out of here,
okay. You're going to come home
with me. Alright?

JITTERBUG
Okay.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-MANSION-DAY

Dean stands in front of the mansion. A bouquet of flowers in his hand. He looks at the flowers and back at the bedroom window.

DEAN
Please forgive me!

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-DAY

Brittney closes a suitcase.

BRITTNEY
You're all set!

Dean steps into the bedroom. He looks around.

DEAN
Destiny!!!

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-MANSION-DAY

Jitterbug's eyes grow with worry.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-CONTINUOUS

Dean looks at Brittney.

DEAN
Who the hell are you?

BRITTNEY
Why, do you want to hit me too?

DEAN
Where's Destiny?

Jitterbug steps out of the bathroom.

JITTERBUG
Right here!

He turns to her.

DEAN
Destiny!

Brittney looks at Jitterbug and then at Dean.

DEAN (CONT'D)
Can we have some time alone?

Jitterbug looks at Brittney.

Brittney steps out.

He looks at Jitterbug.

DEAN (CONT'D)
I'm sorry.

Jitterbug sits down on the bed.

Dean steps towards her, he kneels down in front of her.

DEAN (CONT'D)

The baby?

She looks down.

DEAN (CONT'D)

(sob)

I'm sorry, baby.

He hugs onto her.

Tears stream down her cheek, unable to fight them back.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

Brittney sits, she looks around.

Down the steps, foot after foot, Dean steps down with Jitterbug at his side. Their hands gripping together.

Brittney stands up.

Jitterbug steps towards Brittney. She smiles.

BRITTNEY

I'm guessing that everything's alright now.

JITTERBUG

Yes.

Brittney leans towards her ear.

BRITTNEY

(whisper)

If you need anything, call me, okay.

She steps towards Dean.

DEAN

If anything happens to her, you won't have to worry about the police, you'll be looking over your shoulder.

(point)

Trust that!

Brittney steps towards the door. She looks back at Jitterbug. Her hand turns the doorknob.

The door closes.

Dean steps towards Jitterbug. He caresses her cheek.

DEAN (CONT'D)
We can have another baby.

JITTERBUG
Yes.

She hugs him.

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-DAY

Dean paces back and forth, looking at the headphones and microphone resting on the stool. He spreads a line of cocaine on his thumb.

DEAN
(sniff)
Ahh!!

CUT TO:

INT. WOMEN'S BATHROOM-STUDIO-DAY

Jitterbug sits up, hugging onto her legs.

JITTERBUG
(sob)
(cry)

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM-STUDIO-DAY

Dean looks back at the door.

DEAN
Get the fuck out here!!!

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-DAY

His foot on the gas pedal but his eyes on Jitterbug.

DEAN
 Why do you got to do me like that!!
 Haven't I given you everything,
 huh!!

JITTERBUG
 Stop yelling at me!!

DEAN
 Just answer me!!

Jitterbug's eyes grow with happiness.

JITTERBUG
 He's here!!

She pushes the door open and rushes out.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-MANSION-DAY

Jitterbug rushes towards Stevie, hugging him.

JITTERBUG
 (sob)

Stevie wraps his arms around her.

STEVIE
 I'm happy to see you too.

He looks at her eyes.

Dean shuts the door to the dodge challenger. He steps towards Stevie and Jitterbug.

DEAN
 You must be Stevie?

STEVIE
 And you must be Dean.

Dean reaches his hand out for his.

Stevie shakes his hand.

DEAN
 Shall we?

Stevie walks alongside of him and Jitterbug.

DEAN (V.O.)
Let me pour you another one!

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Dean pours whiskey into Stevie's glass.

Stevie's face grows stressed.

STEVIE
That's enough!

Dean sits.

DEAN
(laugh)

STEVIE
Thanks.

Stevie pours it down his throat.

STEVIE (CONT'D)
(gulp)

Jitterbug steps past the table.

JITTERBUG
That's enough!

DEAN
Come on, let him be a man.

STEVIE
I'm fine, sis.

She steps towards Stevie, kissing him on the cheek.

JITTERBUG
Good night.

Jitterbug looks at Dean.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
No more, please?

DEAN
You got it!

Jitterbug steps towards the stairs.

Dean keeps his eyes on her as she makes it to the second floor.

The door slams shut.

Dean leans over and pours more whiskey into Stevie's glass.

STEVIE
She said no more.

DEAN
What she doesn't know won't hurt her.

Stevie tips the glass over into his mouth.

STEVIE
(gulp)

He smiles at Dean.

STEVIE (CONT'D)
You know your car?

DEAN
Yeah.

STEVIE
Can I drive it?

Dean holds the keys over his head.

DEAN
I got the key right here!

STEVIE
Good.

CUT TO:

INT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-NIGHT

Stevie sits behind the wheel of the dodge challenger, the engine running. He presses his foot on the brake pedal.

DEAN
You got to put your foot on the gas pedal!

STEVIE
Okay.

He presses his foot onto the gas pedal.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD-NIGHT

The dodge challenger swerves to the right and to the left.

CUT TO:

INT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-CONTINUOUS

Stevie's foot pushes hard onto the gas pedal.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD-CONTINUOUS

The dodge challenger drives straightforward into a tree.

CUT TO:

INT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-CONTINUOUS

The *airbag* inflated.

Stevie's head lays pressed against the dashboard, his eyes open but life is not in him.

Dean's head is through the windshield. His eyes closed.

CUT TO:

INT. PATIENT ROOM-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

His hands handcuffed to the *rails* of the bed.

Dean opens his eyes. He looks at POLICE OFFICERS #1 and #2. Confusion races through his mind.

DEAN
What's going on!

CUT TO:

EXT. CEMETERY-DAY

SUPER: ONE WEEK LATER

Jitterbug stands over the casket.

Roger looks at her.

She reaches for his hand.

Roger pulls away.

ROGER

Go back to California. We're done.

He walks away from her.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAX AIRPORT-DAY

Jitterbug steps to the curb.

JITTERBUG

(wave)

Taxi!!!

CUT TO:

INT. TAXI-DAY

The taxi drives through the Bel Air Neighborhood.

Jitterbug looks at the caved in tree. She covers her mouth, fighting back the tears.

JITTERBUG

(sob)

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-DAY

Asleep in bed, Jitterbug lays over the covers, her eyes closed.

The phone rings.

JITTERBUG

(blink)

(moan)

CUT TO:

INT. VISITOR'S ROOM-PRISON-DAY

Her face close to the glass, looking Dean in the eyes.

DEAN

Aren't you going to say something?

JITTERBUG

You killed my brother. Is that what you want me to say?

DEAN

I wasn't driving that night.

JITTERBUG

Or you were too drunk to remember that you drove.

She pulls her wedding ring off her finger and sets it on the table.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

Goodbye.

Jitterbug hangs up the receiver. She stands up and walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-RECORDING STUDIO-DAY

Sean sits at his desk, his eyes on Jitterbug.

SEAN

What brings you in?

JITTERBUG

When am I going to get my chance to make my next album

SEAN

With Dean out of the picture, I suggest you sit down and come up with your own songs.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

She sits on the sofa, her feet on the cushion. She leans her head into the palm of her hand. Jitterbug taps the pen on the notebook.

JITTERBUG

Mmhmm --

She gets the feeling of being antsy, not feeling inspired.
Only one place to get inspired comes to mind.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

The library!

CUT TO:

INT. LIBRARY-DAY

A stack full of **lyric books** sit on the top of the table
beside her.

Jitterbug flips through the lyric book in front of her. She
smiles as she finds the lyrics. The pen writes the words, in
the grip of her hand.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)

(sing)

I -- Have -- I Have heard --

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-DAY

JITTERBUG

(sing)

I -- Never -- Been --

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM-STUDIO-DAY

A young man sits in front of Sean, running the control table.
SOUND ENGINEER, 30s.

SEAN

(wave)

Cut!!

Sean speaks into the microphone.

SEAN (CONT'D)

I thought you were prepared!

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

JITTERBUG
I was. I just haven't prepared as well.

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM-STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

SEAN
It's not working.
(wave)
We're done. Get out of the sound booth.

Her eyes filled with sadness. Jitterbug steps towards the door.

CUT TO:

INT. WOMEN'S BATHROOM-STUDIO-DAY

JITTERBUG
(sob)
(cry)

She covers her face, fighting back the tears.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-PENTHOUSE-DAY

A knock on the front door to the penthouse.

Jitterbug steps in.

An empty living room in front of her.

JITTERBUG
Brittney?

She rushes down the hallway.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-PENTHOUSE-DAY

Jitterbug rushes into the bedroom. Her eyes look disappointed.

Nothing but a stripped bed and **audio cassette** tapes on the floor.

Jitterbug steps towards the left behind cassettes and sits. She lies down on the floor.

JITTERBUG
(sob)

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM-STUDIO-NIGHT

SUPER: THIRTEEN YEARS LATER

In front of the control table, a woman sits with the SOUND ENGINEER. JITTERBUG, 33. Music producer. Strict, demanding and cautious.

JITTERBUG
Run that back!

Jitterbug steps towards the door to the sound booth.

CUT TO:

INT. SOUND BOOTH-STUDIO-NIGHT

She steps towards a teenage girl. JJ, 17. Popstar. A naive and innocent girl.

JITTERBUG
I thought we went over this!

JJ
I'm just waiting for the right moment.

JITTERBUG
We don't have time for you to get the right moment!! You have to get it now!!

JJ
Okay.

Jitterbug gets behind her. She lifts JJ's arms up.

JITTERBUG
Relax! Okay? Breathe in and out!

JJ
(breath)

JITTERBUG
Again!

JJ
(breath)

SECRETARY, 20s.

The Secretary steps into the sound booth.

SECRETARY
Ms. Rollins?

JITTERBUG
Yes?

SECRETARY
You got a phone call?

JITTERBUG
Tell who ever it is that I'm busy.

SECRETARY
It's someone named Brittney.

JITTERBUG
I'll take it in my office.

Jitterbug looks at JJ.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
We'll continue this tomorrow.

She steps past JJ.

JJ
I thought I had to do it tonight.

JITTERBUG
Fine. Go have a drink or something.

Jitterbug pulls the door open and steps out of the sound booth.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-STUDIO-NIGHT

Jitterbug picks up the receiver and presses it to her ear.

JITTERBUG
Hello?

BRITTNEY (V.O.)
Destiny?

JITTERBUG
Brittney?

BRITTNEY (V.O.)
It's been a long time.

JITTERBUG
It has. How have you been?

BRITTNEY (V.O.)
Good. Can we meet?

JITTERBUG
Sure. When?

BRITTNEY (V.O.)
Tomorrow.

JITTERBUG
Where?

BRITTNEY (V.O.)
Do you have a pen?

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

A knock on the door.
The door opens.
Jitterbug peeks in.

JITTERBUG
Hello?

BRITTNEY (O.S.)
Come in!

She steps in and shuts the door.

A woman sits on the sofa in front of Jitterbug. BRITTNEY, 31.
A former ballet dancer and teacher. A strict but driven
woman.

Jitterbug looks at her pregnant belly, a shocked but relieved look of joy in her face. She steps towards Brittney, kissing her on the cheek.

JITTERBUG

How are you?

Brittney looks at her stomach.

Jitterbug sits across from her on the **love seat**.

BRITTNEY

I'm good. I'm just a little pregnant.

JITTERBUG

I'm happy to see you.

BRITTNEY

Glad to see you too.

JITTERBUG

What happened? You just disappeared.

BRITTNEY

I know. My mother moved me to New York to a new dance school.

JITTERBUG

I'm happy you're back.

BRITTNEY

Me too.

Brittney looks at her stomach, seeing the kicking from the baby.

BRITTNEY (CONT'D)

There's something I want to ask you.

JITTERBUG

What?

BRITTNEY

When the baby is born, I'm not meant to be a mother or look after a child. I want you to adopt him.

JITTERBUG

Him?

BRITTNEY
It's a boy.

JITTERBUG
Okay.

BRITTNEY
There are conditions.

JITTERBUG
Which are?

She looks at the movement of her stomach.

BRITTNEY
You'll hear them when he's born.

JITTERBUG
Okay.

BRITTNEY
What do you say? Will you adopt
him?

JITTERBUG
I would be honored.

She touches her chest.

Brittney smiles.

Jitterbug stands up and hugs her.

CUT TO:

INT. JITTERBUG'S 2002 ESCALADE-DAY

The radio plays. "Gangsta's Paradise" by Coolio (feat. L.V.)
plays.

JITTERBUG
(sing)
AS I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE
SHADOW OF DEATH, I TAKE A LOOK AT
MY LIFE AND REALIZE THERE'S NOTHING
LEFT.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD-DAY

The Escalade drives through the Bel Air Neighborhood. It turns into the mansion's driveway.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-MANSION-DAY

Jitterbug steps towards the front door.

DEAN (O.C.)
Jitterbug!

Jitterbug stops walking. She looks around.

DEAN (O.C.) (CONT'D)
Right here!

She looks back at a man standing in front of a remodeled Dodge Challenger. DEAN, 35. Ex-Con. Manipulative and cunning.

JITTERBUG
(breath)
You're out?

DEAN
Good behavior.

He steps towards her, hugging her.

DEAN (CONT'D)
I missed you.

She wraps her arms around him.

JITTERBUG
I missed you too.

DEAN
What do you say we go celebrate?
Tonight.

JITTERBUG
Sure.

Dean steps towards the driver door.

DEAN
I'll see you at nine then.

JITTERBUG
See you then.

He opens the driver door.

Her eyes on the Dodge Challenger driving away.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOVERS LANE-NIGHT

The Dodge Challenger is parked facing the cliff.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. DEAN'S DODGE CHALLENGER-NIGHT

His eyes on hers.

She smiles.

JITTERBUG

What?

He touches her face.

DEAN

I just missed that beautiful smile.

JITTERBUG

It missed you too.

He leans towards her.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

Hold that thought!

Jitterbug opens the passenger door. She gets out.

The door slams shut.

She walks around the Dodge Challenger.

DEAN

Hurry up!

He leans his head back.

DEAN (CONT'D)

(breath)

Dumb bitch.

Jitterbug's hand reaches behind his head and drives his head into the steering wheel.

DEAN (CONT'D)

Ahh!!

His head hitting the center over and over with enough force.

Jitterbug stops. She rushes around to the passenger door and pulls it open.

JITTERBUG

Goodbye, Dean.

She turns the key in the ignition and puts the GEAR in DRIVE. Jitterbug steps away.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOVERS LANE-CONTINUOUS

The Dodge Challenger drives off the cliff.

Jitterbug steps towards a parked 2002 Escalade. She opens the driver door and sits.

CUT TO:

INT. JITTERBUG'S 2002 ESCALADE-NIGHT

She turns the key in the ignition and puts the AUTOMATIC in Drive.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-MANSION-NIGHT

The Escalade parks in the driveway.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

A knock at the door.

Jitterbug steps down the steps.

Another knock on the door.

JITTERBUG

Yeah, yeah! I'm coming!

She steps towards the door and pulls it open.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

What!!

Two men stand in front of her. RAY, 29. Police detective. A smooth talking, no nonsense taking man. JOSE, 28. Police detective. A gullible, kind and down-to-earth man.

RAY
Mrs. Rollins?

JITTERBUG
Ms. Rollins. Got it?

RAY
May we come in?

JITTERBUG
Depends, who are you?

Ray shows her his **badge**.

She looks at the badge.

JOSE
We just have a couple of questions.

JITTERBUG
About?

RAY
Your Ex-husband.

JITTERBUG
Come in then!

Ray and Jose sit. Jose looks around.

JOSE
Nice place.

Ray looks at Jose with seriousness.

RAY
Really!

JOSE
What, it is.

Jitterbug steps into the living room, a tray in the grip of her hands. She sets it down on the **coffee table**.

JITTERBUG
Cream and sugar.

She pours coffee into a mug and hands it to Jose.

JOSE

Thanks.

Jose smiles.

Ray looks at him.

Jose looks at the disgusted look on Ray's face. He sips from the mug, trying to take himself out of the conversation.

RAY

Ms. Rollins, when was the last time you saw your ex?

JITTERBUG

Yesterday.

RAY

Hate to break it to you but he's dead.

JITTERBUG

(gasp)
What!

Jitterbug covers her face.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

(sob)

Jose stands up. He pulls his *handkerchief* from his front pocket and hands it to her.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

Thank you.

She takes it from him and wipes her eyes.

Jose sits down next to Ray.

Ray looks at him, feeling betrayed.

RAY

Thank you for your time. We better get out of your hair now.

Ray stands up. He steps around the couch. His eyes on Jose.

Jose looks back at him.

RAY (CONT'D)

Come on!

Jose stands up and steps towards the door.

JITTERBUG
You!

RAY
(point)
Me?

JITTERBUG
No.

Jose looks back at her.

JOSE
Me?

JITTERBUG
Don't be a stranger.

Ray pushes Jose into the door.

Jose opens the door and steps outside.

RAY
You have a good day.

JITTERBUG
(wave)
Bye.

The door closes.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
And the award for best actress goes
to -- Me!!
(clap)
(laugh)

CUT TO:

INT. NURSERY-HOSPITAL-DAY

SUPER: SEVEN MONTHS LATER

A newborn resting in Jitterbug's arms. She rocks herself gently in a **rocking chair**.

JITTERBUG
Mamas got you.

Her eyes on the newborns face.

CUT TO:

INT. PATIENT ROOM-HOSPITAL-DAY

An empty bed in the room.

Jitterbug steps in.

JITTERBUG
Brittney!!

She looks around the room. Her eyes look directly at the newborn.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Let's go home kiddo.

Jitterbug turns around and steps out of the room.

CUT TO:

INT. NURSERY-MANSION-DAY

She rocks the newborn gently against her chest.

JITTERBUG
Mama's gonna give you all the love
and then some. I promise.

Jitterbug kisses the newborn on the top of his head.

The doorbell rings.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

She opens the door.

Jose looks at her with desire in his eyes.

JITTERBUG
It took you long enough.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

His hands gripped onto her hips.

Jitterbug goes up and down.

JITTERBUG
(pant)

JOSE
(grunt)

JITTERBUG (V.O.)
I knew there was something behind
you in those eyes of yours.

She leans her head on his chest.

Jose wraps his arm around her.

JOSE
Can I ask -- What does this make
us?

JITTERBUG
Friends --

JOSE
Friends?

JITTERBUG
With benefits.

He smiles.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-POLICE DEPARTMENT-DAY

Ray sits in front of his **desktop computer**.

Jose steps past him.

RAY
It took you long enough.

Jose sets a coffee cup down on Ray's desk.

RAY (CONT'D)
Is something keeping you from
calling me back?

Jose turns his back to him.

RAY (CONT'D)
Aren't you going to answer me!

He looks at him in the corner of his eye.

JOSE
I don't remember you being my
mother, Ray.

Jose steps away.

JOSE (CONT'D)
I got some errands to run.

Ray turns and watches him walk out of the office.

RAY
Jose!

CUT TO:

INT. RAY'S CADILLAC-DAY

Ray parks the Cadillac far behind Jose's car.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-MANSION-DAY

Jose rushes towards the front door of the mansion.

CUT TO:

INT. NURSERY-MANSION-DAY

Her hand pulls the blanket up to the newborns waist as he
sleeps soundly. Jitterbug smiles.

Hands wrap around her.

Jose leans his head on her shoulder.

JOSE
How's the little man?

JITTERBUG
Good.

She grabs a hold of his hand and walks him out of the nursery.

CUT TO:

INT. RAY'S CADILAC-NIGHT

Ray sits in the driver seat. He looks through **binoculars**.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

Jitterbug leans over Jose, grabbing a **pack** of cigarettes from the nightstand. She sits up.

Jose watches her put a cigarette in her mouth.

JOSE

I didn't know you smoked.

JITTERBUG

There's a lot of things you don't know about me.

She lights the cigarette with a **match**.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

(inhale)

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. RAY'S CADILAC-NIGHT

His eyes focused on the front door.

A tap on the driver side window.

Ray looks at Jose. He rolls the window down.

RAY

Yes?

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-ROLLINS RESIDENCE-NIGHT-FLASHBACK

The lifeless body of Claire lies on the floor of the bathroom.

Roger kneels down over her, lifting her head up from the pool of blood.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)

When I was young, my father beat my mother so much that she was afraid to leave him. Finally, he had done something that couldn't be undone. He killed her.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-ROLLINS RESIDENCE-NIGHT

Jitterbug peeks her head out, looking at Claire's blank face staring back at her.

JITTERBUG

(sob)
(cry)

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-BACK TO PRESENT

Jose stares off into the abyss, hearing her confess a family trauma from her very lips. He leans his head towards her. She kisses his cheek.

JOSE

Geez!

JITTERBUG

Now you know something about me.
What made you become a detective?

JOSE

Truth?

JITTERBUG

Sure.

JOSE

My brother.

JITTERBUG

What happened?

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEY-DAY-FLASHBACK

A young boy stands in front of GANG MEMBERS #1 and #2. JOSE'S BROTHER, 12.

JOSE'S BROTHER (SUBTITLE)
 (In Spanish)
 Please don't shoot!

Gang Member #1 fires a shot. He looks at Gang Member #2.

GANG MEMBER #1 (SUBTITLE)
 (In Spanish)
 Get the bike!

Jose's Brother lies DEAD on the gravel ground.

8-YEAR-OLD JOSE rushes to his brother's lifeless body.

8-YEAR-OLD JOSE (SUBTITLE)
 (In Spanish)
 Mommy!!

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-BACK TO PRESENT

She hugs onto him, hugging him tight, trying to sooth him.

JITTERBUG
 (sob)
 I'm sorry!

JOSE
 (cry)

He wipes the tears away from his cheek.

She grabs the handkerchief from the nightstand and hands it to him.

Jose looks at the handkerchief and then looks at her, his eyes look into hers.

Jitterbug caresses his face.

JITTERBUG
 We both know what you have to do.
 Don't we?

JOSE

Yes.

CUT TO:

INT/EXT. RAY'S CADILLAC-NIGHT

RAY

What is it?

Jose punches Ray across the face, knocking him unconscious.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH-NIGHT

The Cadillac backs up. It falls to the sandy beach below. Exploding.

Jose looks down at the fiery demise of the Cadillac.

He rushes away.

JOSE

(breath)

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-JOSE'S APARTMENT-DAY

A loud pound on the door.

POLICE OFFICER (O.C.)

Open up!!

Jose opens his eyes. He sits up.

POLICE OFFICER (O.C.) (CONT'D)

Come on! Open the door!!

Jose grabs the doorknob, pulls it open and looks a man in the eyes. POLICE OFFICER, early 20s.

JOSE

Yes?

CUT TO:

INT. PRISON CELL-PRISON-DAY

Jose lies on a *cot*, hugging onto his pillow.

JOSE
(sob)

CUT TO:

INT. CONTROL ROOM-STUDIO-DAY

A wicked smile across her face while she watches Alexis in the sound booth, harmonizing through the entire control room.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-MANSION-DAY

SUPER: TEN YEARS LATER

Jitterbug sits on a lounge chair; she looks at her watch.

JITTERBUG
Nicholas!!

A boy runs out, rushing towards Jitterbug. 10-YEAR-OLD NICHOLAS. Shy, kind and loving.

Jitterbug stands up.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Did you comb your hair?

10-YEAR-OLD NICHOLAS
Yes.

She looks at him with a look of truthfully.

He lowers his head.

10-YEAR-OLD NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
No.

Jitterbug brushes her fingers through his hair.

JITTERBUG
There you go.

He rushes off.

A *minivan* pulls up to the curb and stops.

10-YEAR-OLD NICHOLAS

(wave)
Bye mom!

JITTERBUG

(wave)
Bye sweetie!

10-Year-Old Nicholas opens the door and gets in.

The minivan drives away.

Her eyes on the minivan as it turns the corner.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE-STUDIO-DAY

Jitterbug sits at her desk, going through paperwork. She looks across and sees all the framed photographs on her wall.

A photograph of her and Dean. Along with a photograph of her and JJ.

JITTERBUG (V.O.)

Those were the days for me. I went
from being a waitress to a singer.
A singer to a record producer.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

An aged Jitterbug lays in bed. **Air tubes** in her nose.

A young man stands by the window. NICK, 18. Art student.
Kind, straight forward and bold.

NICK

Do you miss it?

JITTERBUG

What?

NICK

Singing.

JITTERBUG

Everyday.
(wave)
Come here.

Nick steps towards her.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
Lean towards me?

He leans his face towards her.

She touches his face.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)
One day you're going to make a
lucky girl very happy.

Nick smiles.

NICK
One question mom?

JITTERBUG
Shoot?

NICK
When was the last time you saw
Jose?

She thinks to herself.

CUT TO:

INT. VISITOR'S ROOM-PRISON-DAY-FLASHBACK

Jitterbug sits across from Jose; the receiver pressed against her ear.

JOSE
You have to get me out of here! You
have to tell them it was your
idea!!

JITTERBUG
I don't know what you're talking
about!

JOSE
Yes, you do!! Admit it!

She leans her face closer to the glass.

JITTERBUG
Admit this! You were there that
night.

(MORE)

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

The second night I performed in a bar. You and your police buddies decided to have your fun.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM-BAR-NIGHT-JITTERBUG'S FLASHBACK

A young man stands in the corner of a large bathroom stall. 18-YEAR-OLD JOSE. Police cadet. Weak, spineless and gullible.

Three men have Jitterbug pressed against the tile wall. JOSE'S FRIENDS #1, #2 and #3. Late teens. Jose's Friend #1 looks back at 18-Year-Old Jose.

JOSE'S FRIEND #1

Get your ass in there, Jose!

18-Year-Old Jose pushes his way through.

Jose's Friend #2 and #3 yank his pants down.

JITTERBUG

Don't, please!

He smiles and presses himself against her.

JITTERBUG (CONT'D)

(sob)

(cry)

CUT TO:

INT. VISITOR'S ROOM-PRISON-CONTINUOUS-BACK TO FIRST FLASHBACK

JITTERBUG

Now you see!

She hangs up the receiver, stands up and steps away.

Jose stands to his feet, pounding on the glass.

JOSE

You bitch!!

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-BACK TO PRESENT

NICK

What was he in for?

JITTERBUG
He never told me.

She smiles.

NICK (V.O.)
You died on a Friday.

CUT TO:

EXT. CEMETERY-DAY

Nick looks down at the casket as it lies deep down into the hole.

NICK
I know you wanted me to keep the mansion, which is why I'm renting it out. Please don't be disappointed with me, mom. Maybe I'll get a reliable tenant or something.

He crouches down and looks at the casket.

NICK (CONT'D)
(sob)
(cry)
I love you mom.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

SUPER: THREE YEARS LATER

Nick walks a box full of *figurines* to the front door. He looks around.

NICK
So long.

CUT TO:

EXT. POOL-HOTEL-DAY

A young man is leaned back on a lounge chair, *sunglasses* on. CHRIS, 21. A law student. Arrogant, cocky and smug.

A woman lays on her stomach, looking through her cell phone. SIERRA, 21. Super model. Sweet but naive.

CHRIS
Babe, what are you doing?

SIERRA
I'm looking for a house to rent.

CHRIS
I told you that you can stay with
me.

Sierra looks at him and smiles.

SIERRA
Thanks, but no thanks.

IPHONE SCREEN

A photograph of a mansion appears. The price is reasonable.
It reads: Ten thousand a month.

BACK TO SCENE

Sierra stands up.

SIERRA (CONT'D)
Babe!

Chris takes off the sunglasses.

CHRIS
What?

SIERRA
This is amazing!

CHRIS
What is!

SIERRA
The owner only wants ten thousand!
This is a dream come true.

CHRIS
What's the catch?

SIERRA
No catch. It's the deal of a
lifetime.

She taps her fingers on the screen of her cell phone.

CHRIS
What are you doing now!

SIERRA
I'm calling for a walkthrough.

She puts her cell phone to her ear.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-DAY

SIERRA
I love it!

Sierra rushes through the room, looking at the bathroom and the bathtub.

SIERRA (CONT'D)
Wow!

REALTOR, 30s.

Sierra looks at the Realtor.

SIERRA (CONT'D)
Is that a new bathtub?

REALTOR
Yes.

SIERRA
Who put that in?

REALTOR
The owner.

SIERRA
Wow! I got to meet him.

REALTOR
He actually takes care of the lawn
and waters it.

SIERRA
Really?

REALTOR
Yes.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

At the table, sitting across from Sierra. The Realtor hands her paper after paper to sign.

REALTOR
Will there be anyone else living
with you?

SIERRA
No. Just me.

The Realtor hands her another piece of paper.

REALTOR
One more.

She signs her name.

SIERRA
Can I ask you a question?

REALTOR
Sure.

SIERRA
Who was the previous owner?

REALTOR
Destiny Rollins

SIERRA
Really? the singer.

REALTOR
Yes.

The Realtor collects all the signed paperwork and slides it into her **briefcase**.

SIERRA
So, when can I move in?

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-MANSION-DAY

SUPER: THE NEXT DAY

A **moving van** is parked in the driveway.

MOVERS #1, #2 and #3. 20s.

Furniture is carried in.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

Movers #1 and #2 carry a **couch** into the living room.

Sierra steps out of their way, looking at the couch with disgust.

SIERRA

Eww!

MOVER #1

What, you don't want it?

SIERRA

No, it's fine. You can just leave it here.

Movers #1 and #2 step out of the living room.

Sierra taps on her phone screen.

SIERRA (CONT'D)

Where the hell are you, Chris!

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY-HOTEL-DAY

Sierra steps towards a door. She leans her ear towards it.

PROSTITUTE

(moan)

She moves her head and looks at the door.

SIERRA

What the --

Sierra kicks the door open.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM #223-HOTEL-DAY

Chris lies on the bed and looks at Sierra while a woman is on top of him.

CHRIS

Sierra!

PROSTITUTE, 20s.

The Prostitute falls to the floor and hides under the bed.

Chris stands to his feet.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Babe!

Sierra punches him in the face.

He falls to the floor.

SIERRA

We're through!

Sierra walks out of the room.

Chris sits up.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-NIGHT

SIERRA

(cry)

Sierra sits up in the middle of the bed, **wadded up tissues** on her lap. Her eyes on the television screen. She wipes the tears from her eyes.

SIERRA (CONT'D)

Why did you let him do that to you!
Stupid!

Night turns into day.

The sound of a **lawnmower** runs.

Sierra lifts her head.

She steps towards the window and peeks out.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD-MANSION-DAY

Nick pushes the lawnmower across the lawn.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM-MANSION-DAY

Sierra looks outside the window.

SIERRA'S POV:

Nick's muscle toned arms, and his sweaty skin glistens from the sunlight hitting it.

BACK TO SCENE

Sierra tugs at her shorts.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

The front door opens.

Sierra lifts her arms up.

SIERRA

Hey!!

Two women step into the living room. LISA, 21. College student. A spoiled and privileged heiress. BETH, 19. College student. Self-centered and selfish.

Sierra wraps her arms around both of their necks, hugging them with all her might.

BETH

Happy to see you too!

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

Lisa looks at the renovated dining room.

LISA

This place is something!

Sierra stands in front of her.

SIERRA
Isn't it!

LISA
You got it for how much again?

SIERRA
Ten thousand.

LISA
The owners not desperate for money,
is he.

SIERRA
Nope.

Lisa digs her hands through the bowl of **grapes**. One at a time, she tosses them into her mouth.

LISA
Is he hot?

Sierra opens a curtain.

Lisa looks outside the window.

SIERRA
See for yourself.

Lisa's eyes on his butt and arms.

LISA
Those arms! Look at them!!

SIERRA
I know.

LISA
You know what their saying. Let me
lift you up and ride you like a
cowgirl!

Sierra pushes her away from the window.

SIERRA
Oh, you are bad!

LISA
(laugh)
I bet you can't go outside and
streak!

SIERRA

What!

LISA

Let's get Beth in on this. Oh,
Beth!

SIERRA

Please don't!

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-MANSION-DAY

In the nude, peeking out the window, Sierra hesitates to go outside.

BETH (O.C.)

Do it!!

Sierra looks back at Beth and puts her finger in front of her mouth.

SIERRA

Shh!!!

CUT TO:

INT. PATIENT ROOM-HOSPITAL-NIGHT

SUPER: FOURTEEN MONTHS LATER

His newborn daughter rest in his arms, her **pink** and **white beanie** over her head.

A **laptop** sits on the bedside table.

LAPTOP SCREEN

Sierra rushes behind a **bush**. Her buttocks in the full frame of the screen.

BACK TO SCENE

Sierra covers her face, feeling embarrassed.

SIERRA

Oh! I'm going to kill Beth!

NICK
Wait for it!

SIERRA
Wait for what?

LAPTOP SCREEN

The screen goes black. It reads: Video has been deleted.

BACK TO SCENE

SIERRA (CONT'D)
What? What happened?

NICK
Let's just say I paid a friend to
get rid of the video.

She kisses him on the cheek.

SIERRA
Oh, I love you!

Sierra leans her head on his shoulder and watches the newborn
sleep.

NICK
(sing)
GOOD TO SLEEP, LITTLE ONE, SLEEP IN
YOUR WARM COMFY BED. LET THE
CLOUDS, CARRY YOU AWAY AND BE ON
YOUR MERRY WAY.

Sierra smiles.

Nick kisses Sierra on her cheek.

NICK (V.O.)
Thank you, mom. Good night.

FADE OUT:

THE END