

Home for Harvest

by

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FADE IN:

**INT - RAINY SEPTEMBER DAY IN DOWNTOWN HOUSTON MEDICAL CENTER**

Alexandra, a black, mid 20's medical billing and coding specialist, with a natural twist hair style

SETUP SCENE: Alex, sitting in the hospital break room on her cellphone.

ALEXANDRA (O.T.P)  
The way she talks you could swear I moved outta the country.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)  
Well, even so, you don't visit that much or at all so you may as well had moved outta the country.

ALEXANDRA  
Go back there why? There's nothing there, that's why I left.

She said with emphasis.

FEMALE VOICE  
She's still there.

ALEXANDRA  
Ha, by choice. I asked her to move to the city but she...

Her aunt cut her off.

FEMALE VOICE  
You know she's not gonna leave her home.

ALEXANDRA  
Well, that's on her.

FEMALE VOICE  
Alex, don't be like that. Just go for the harvest, she'll be glad to see you.

ALEXANDRA  
I'm more partial to your comment about not going home at all.

FEAMLE VOICE  
Oh you heard that?

ALEXANDRA  
Yes ma'am I did, Auntie.

AUNTIE  
Well, prove me wrong. Your  
uncle and I will be there too.

ALEXANDRA  
(taking a deep breath)  
Okay Auntie. I have to get  
back to work now. Love you.

AUNTIE  
Love you too baby, bye.

They hung up and Alex went back to her workstation. The rest  
of the workday was busy as usual, keeping Alex from watching  
the time.

FADE OUT:

**INT - GYM**

Alex working out at the gym. The sound of exercise equipment  
in the background, then her phone vibrated cutting off the  
music she was working out to.

ALEXANDRA  
Hello.

She said breathing hard.

MALE VOICE  
Hey, babe, my shift ended  
early. You want some company?

ALEXANDRA  
Hey baby.

Smiling in the phone.

ALEXANDRA CONT'D  
Sure, you may be there before  
me though.

Terrence, a tall, dark skinned, 30-ish male doctor.

TERRENCE  
Why? Where are you?

ALEXANDRA

At the gym.

TERRENCE

Aww yeah. The hospital gym? I can join you.

ALEXANDRA

Aww, I'm almost done.

TERRENCE

You just don't want me there.

He said playfully.

TERRENCE CONT'D

It's fine, I'll wait for you at your place.

ALEXANDRA

Ha you're silly, okay, that's fine.

They hung up.

FADE TO:

#### NEXT SCENE

Alex was walking into her medical center apartment building.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Hello!?

He yelled from the restroom. She walked into the bedroom and saw his chiseled, hairless chest, wrapped waist down in a towel.

ALEXANDRA

Aww, you've already showered.

TERRENCE

Yup, just got out.

They kissed and she went into the restroom to shower herself.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)

What do you want to eat?

ALEXANDRA

It doesn't matter, as long as I don't have to cook.

They yelled between rooms.

TERRENCE

How about our place on Travis?

ALEXANDRA

Our place with the live music?

TERRENCE

Yeah, how about them?

ALEXANDRA

That's fine.

She yelled back as she stepped into the shower.

NEXT SCENE:

Sitting at their favorite corner table eating and listening to the jazz band.

ALEXANDRA

So, my mom had my aunt to  
contact me today about going  
to the harvest.

TERRENCE

So, are you going?

ALEXANDRA

I don't know, what I do know  
is that sounds like a ploy  
just to get me down there.

He shook his head, was about to speak but she cut him off.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

So I think I'll go and spend a  
weekend.

TERRENCE

You gonna do that and the  
harvest?

ALEXANDRA

Ha, heck no. She gets one or  
the other.

TERRENCE

Wow!

ALEXANDRA

Wow, what?

TERRENCE

Nothing.

ALEXANDRA

No, really what?

TERRENCE

Babe, it's your mom.

ALEXANDRA

Baby I know that, the same mom  
that could come and visit me  
too. So what are you getting  
at?

TERRENCE

Do you know what I give to  
have my mom here again?

She looked at him and smirked. He always made her feel some  
type of way when he spoke about his mom. Trying to explain  
to him the relational differences was a moot point.

ALEXANDRA

I know baby, I just hate going  
back there.

TERRENCE

Well, just go back for the  
festival.

ALEXANDRA

But, it's the boonies.

She said in the sad voice, he laughed and said,

TERRENCE

Would it help if I go with  
you?

ALEXANDRA

Aww baby, you would do that  
with me?

TERRENCE

I would.

She smiled at him and he winked at her.

ALEXANDRA

But, I still don't wanna go.

He shook his head at her and she smiled again. Their food  
came and they ate while listening to the band.

FLASH CUT: - EXT

Since the rain had stopped and the night air was still they decided to walk to the restaurant. Walking hand in hand, down the sidewalk back to her apartment his 'on call' phone rang, Alexandra exhaled heavily.

TERRENCE  
Dr. Clark.

He said in, what she thought was, his sexy phone voice, then listened to his end of the call.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)  
That's correct.

He hung up his phone and she gasped.

ALEXANDRA  
Conference call?

TERRENCE  
Yeah, with a patient's family  
on speaker confirming  
discharge.

ALEXANDRA  
Oh, I thought it was a call  
back in to work.

TERRENCE  
Right, I was kinda dreading it  
to.

ALEXANDRA  
Is that selfish that we didn't  
want you to have to go back to  
the hospital?

She said laughing.

TERRENCE  
Yes, it is selfish of you.

She playfully punched him in the arm.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)  
Ouch, now I can't operate.  
Hahaha.

ALEXANDRA  
Stop it!

She said laughing.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
You play too much.

They arrived at her apartment and got comfortable to settle in the for the night.

FADE OUT:

**NEXT SCENE**

When she woke up, she saw Terrence sitting on the side of her bed, with his back to her.

ALEXANDRA  
What are you doing?

She said with sleep in her voice.

TERRENCE  
Oh, nothing, responding to a work text.

He put his phone on the nightstand and laid back down beside her.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)  
So, when is the harvest thingy?

ALEXANDRA  
The harvest festival?

She laughed.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
It's the 3rd weekend in October.

TERRENCE  
I need to get someone to cover for me. If you still want me to go with you?

ALEXANDRA  
I still want you to go instead of me.

TERRENCE  
You're funny.

He laughed and tickled her.



ALEXANDRA  
No, I'm serious.

They both laughed.

TERRENCE  
You're bad.

ALEXANDRA  
I thought you like me bad.

She winked, they laughed then started to kiss.

JUMP CUT TO:

**INT - ALEXANDRA PACKING**

Alex was in her apartment packing and talking on her speaker phone.

ALEXANDRA  
I still can't believe you're not coming.

TERRENCE  
I'm sorry babe, I couldn't find any of my usual doctors to see my patients.

ALEXANDRA  
Mhmm, I'm starting to think you didn't try hard at all.

TERRENCE  
Wow, really?

She laughed to let him know she wasn't being serious.

ALEXANDRA  
Well, it's neither here nor there. I'm going and you're not.

TERRENCE  
Babe stop sounding so negative. You're on vacation.

ALEXANDRA  
In the country! Without you!

TERRENCE  
With your mom.

ALEXANDRA

Stop trying to make that a selling point. That's not helping.

TERRENCE

Is there something I'm missing? What happened between you and your mom?

She could almost feel tears well up in her eyes.

ALEXANDRA

Nothing.

TERRENCE

Babe, really, I can hear in your voice it's more than nothing.

ALEXANDRA

Well, it's a long story, nothing I can get into right now.

TERRENCE

Okay, that's fine, I need to get back to my rounds anyway.

As she left her apartment, she glanced around to make sure everything was off, closed the door behind her, loaded her 1 weekend bag in the seat in the back, got in the car and drove away. She sent Terrence a text that she was leaving. He would respond after his rounds and he didn't like her texting while driving anyway.

ALEXANDRA

That's what I get for dating a doctor.

She smiled to herself at the thought of dating a doctor. With her radio playing her favorite CHH music, her trip home went to quickly. She pulled into the driveway, pulled out her phone and sent Terrence a text that she'd made it safely, but sat in the still running car just thinking. A knock, knock, knock on the window startled her.

MOM

How long are you gonna sit there?

A short, gray haired woman in her late 50's stood at the window.

ALEXANDRA

Hi, mom.

She turned off the engine, grabbed her bag and got out the car.

MOM

Hey baby, look at you. You're so skinny.

She said grabbing her by the arm.

MOM (CONT'D)

Are you hungry? I cooked your favorites.

ALEXANDRA

Aww, mommy, you didn't have to do that.

She almost felt like a kid again.

MOM

Yes, I did, look at how skinny you are.

Still holding her by the arm and now smiling they walked into the house and all sorts of delicious aromas hit Alex in the nose. Alex stopped at the door and looked around.

ALEXANDRA

Mmm, it smells delicious in here. You haven't changed anything since dad...

MOM

Take your bag to your room and wash up. I'll fix our plates, I waited for you so we could eat together.

Noticing her mom had cut her off she didn't wanna argue so she let it go. She put her bag on her freshly made bed, washed her hands and went into the dining room. She sat at the table across from her mom, who grabbed her hand and started to pray.

ALEXANDRA AND MOM

(in unison)

Amen.

MOM

Dig in.

Alexandra hadn't seen so much soul food on one plate since she moved to Houston.

ALEXANDRA  
I cook but, I don't cook like  
this.

Her mom laughed as if saying I know you don't.

MOM  
Well baby, if you come home  
more often...

ALEXANDRA  
Mom don't start.

She said cutting her off.

MOM  
I'm not trying to argue, I'm  
just saying...

She abruptly cut her off.

ALEXANDRA  
I know what you're saying  
momma. I get it.

Both women exhaled loudly. They ate in silence. Once they were done and the kitchen was cleaned her mom sat on the sofa with the remote in her hand. Alex grabbed her license, keys and cell phone and headed toward the door.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
I'm going to the store.

And memories started to come back when she and her dad would use "going to the store" as an excuse after dinner to go out and get ice cream. It's a miracle she wasn't fat as a kid.

MOM  
Okay, baby. Be careful.

As she passed her mom, Alex leaned down and kissed her on the cheek.

ALEXANDRA  
I will mommy. I love you.

MOM  
I love you too baby.

Once the door closed and her mom heard the car pull out the driveway, she grabbed her landline telephone and started dialing.

FADE OUT:

**JUMP CUT TO - EXT STRIP CENTER**

Alexandra pulled into the newly paved parking lot of the small towns only strip center.

ALEXANDRA

Oh wow.

She parked, got out of the car and started walking across the parking lot.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Oh wow.

She said again. A few feet away from her car she stopped in her tracks then turned around in a circle.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Oh no, the ice cream shop is gone.

In shock she couldn't decide if she wanted to go back to the house or just stay out and walk around. Just then a loud BEEP, BEEP, BEEP startled her back into reality again. "They have to stop doing that," she said to herself. She jumped back toward her jeep to let the aggressive horn blower pass.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

OMG.

She waved them around.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Go on around.

Just then a pickup truck stopped in front of her, the horn blowing stopped, and the driver rolled down the window for Alex to see a straggly bearded Caucasian male.

STRAGGLY BEARDED MALE

You've been gone too long,  
some drivers will run over  
you.

He said in a familiar voice.

ALEXANDRA

Brian!?

BRIAN

Hey, Alley Cat.

ALEXANDRA

Oh, my gawd, I haven't heard  
that since...

BRIAN

Yep, I remember that night.

He said with a huge smile covered by a James Hardin styled  
beard. She blushed and he pulled into a parking spot and got  
out of his pickup truck.

ALEXANDRA

Brian, how have you been?

He grabbed her in a big bear hug.

BRIAN

I'm good Alley Cat. You look  
good.

With his arm still around her waist, they walked over to the  
sidewalk so they could talk more.

ALEXANDRA

Other than the beard you still  
look the same.

BRIAN

I like to think I've matured.

He said rubbing his beard. They both laughed then she  
noticed a strong alcohol smell.

ALEXANDRA

So what are you doing back  
here? How long are you here  
for?

BRIAN

Well, I moved back home last  
June. Get this, I moved back  
home to help him take care of  
my moms. Then he died.

Alex gasped.

ALEXANDRA

Oh my God, I'm so sorry to hear that.

As they stood on the sidewalk in front of a dollar store she put her hand on his arm.

BRIAN

Oh well, it's all good though. You know me and my old man didn't really gel anyways.

ALEXANDRA

I remember. So, how's your mom?

BRIAN

Ugh, don't get me started.

He huffed and the smell hit her nostrils hard. She laughed off his comment and turned her head from the smell pretending to look around the strip center.

ALEXANDRA

Oh wow, sorry. So what about you?

BRIAN

Never mind me. How are things with Alley Cat? How long you gonna be at the old place?

People were passing them that Alexandra didn't recognize.

ALEXANDRA

Um, I've been good. I'm just here for the harvest festival.

BRIAN

Yeah, so are most of these people.

He pointed towards some passersby.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Well, I hope you can fit me in for dinner tomorrow night.

ALEXANDRA

Yeah, well I'm actually dating someone and I don't think that's a good idea.

His happy demeanor seemed to change to a more somber one that made Alexandra think maybe he'd been feeling that a lot and that's why he smelled of alcohol. It almost made her feel sorry for him.

BRIAN

Oh okay, it's fine. I'm sure he wouldn't want you hanging around an old boyfriend anyways.

ALEXANDRA

Well, he'd be fine with it cause we're just old friends. I just may not have time.

BRIAN

Someone that couldn't take off and come meet your moms?

Alex was about to snap back but decided to take the high road instead.

ALEXANDRA

He has met her.

She neglected to say it was via skype.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Well, you know it was good to see you again Brian but, I need to go.

BRIAN

Oh yeah, okay. Well, since Perry's Ice Cream closed there's a Baskin-Robbins around the corner.

ALEXANDRA

How did you...never mind.

They both laughed because the whole town knew she and her dad would get ice cream after dinner.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Thanks Brian, it really was good seeing you again.

BRIAN

But not good enough for dinner.

He said in her ear as he gave her a another bear hug.



BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Yeah, if you say so.

ALEXANDRA  
I'm here to spend time with my  
mom. I'll only gonna be here  
for the festival Bri.

She turned and headed toward her jeep as fast as she could, hoping he wasn't behind her. Once she got in she started driving almost hitting a basket in the process.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
That was sooo weird. I guess  
he's dealing with some anger  
issues.

Once she got back to her parents house she saw her mom was asleep on the sofa. Alex covered her with a duvet, kissed her on the head, went to her old room, closed the door and pulled out her cell phone to call Terrence.

TERRENCE (O.T.P.)  
Hey babe. I got your texts,  
sorry I haven't been able to  
respond tho.

ALEXANDRA  
Hey baby. It's fine, are you  
still busy?

TERRENCE  
Nah, you're good. I just  
finished my rounds. So how's  
it going so far?

ALEXANDRA  
Well, after dinner...

TERRENCE  
Dinner, y'all went out?

ALEXANDRA  
No, baby, we...

He cut her off again.

TERRENCE  
You had your mom cooking for  
you?

ALEXANDRA  
No, she had already cooked all  
my fav's when I got here.

TERRENCE  
Spoiled self.

ALEXANDRA  
Whatever.

TERRENCE  
So what did she cook? So what  
are your fav's?

ALEXANDRA  
Cornbread dressing, baked  
turkey wings, fresh mixed  
greens and real dirty rice.

TERRENCE  
Oh wow, really.

ALEXANDRA  
Mmhmm, but I'm not finished.

TERRENCE  
Ha, look at my country girl.

They both laughed.

ALEXANDRA  
Anyway, you eat that food too?

TERRENCE  
Yeah, cause you cook it. Babe,  
I'm a guy, it's not much we  
don't eat.

ALEXANDRA  
Ha right onn.

They laughed again and Alex yawned.

TERRENCE  
Yeah, I hear you. I'm pretty  
tired myself. Gotta finish  
these patient charts before I  
can call it a night.

ALEXANDRA  
Okay, baby, goodnight.

TERRENCE  
Good night babe.

They hadn't been dating long enough for either to say the 3 word phrase yet. So they hung up their phones. Alex glanced in the living room and saw her mom still in the same spot asleep, she went down the hall to the restroom, jumped in the shower so she could go to sleep herself.

FADE OUT:

#### NEXT SCENE

The next morning Alex woke to the smell of bacon and coffee. Because her mom was always cold she had the heat on during the night which made Alex sweat in her sleep. By the time she showered again, dressed and came out the room the kitchen was already cleaned.

MOM

Good morning sleepy head. Your plate is in the microwave.

ALEXANDRA

Good morning, thanks mommy.  
What do you have plans for today?

She kissed her mom on the forehead as she passed her sitting in the same spot on the sofa she left her sleeping in the night before.

She blessed her food and started to eat.

MOM

Nothing really. Since your dad...

She stopped what she was about to say. Started to feel emotional she took a deep breath before she finished.

MOM (CONT'D)

Well, I don't have to clean up as much, so just what you see me doing now.

ALEXANDRA

I thought you were taking trips? Wow, all day? It must be nice.

MOM

Nah, not since, you know. Sometimes, I'll go by the church and see what the old folks are doing.

ALEXANDRA  
Ha, old folks.

MOM  
What are trying to say? I'm  
not old.

ALEXANDRA  
Well, if the moo-moo fits.

MOM  
Well, I'd like to be spending  
my days spoiling some nannas  
babies.

Alex rolled her eyes and continued to eat.

MOM (CONT'D)  
That would occupy my time.

ALEXANDRA  
Oh heck, I opened that door  
didn't I?

MOM  
Yes, you did. So how are you  
and the handsome doctor?

Alex fought back a blushing smile because she completely  
agreed with her mom that doctor Terrence Clark was handsome.  
She answered after chewing.

ALEXANDRA  
We're good.

MOM  
Ookkk.

Alex got up, cleaned her dishes and sat on the sofa next to  
her mom.

MOM  
So what are your plans today?

ALEXANDRA  
I don't know, haven't thought  
about it.

There was an awkward silence that seemed like it lasted  
forever.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
Whatever I do, I hope I don't  
run into Brian again.

MOM

Oh you saw him?

ALEXANDRA

Mmhmm, last night when I went  
looking for the ice cream  
parlor, that's not there  
anymore.

She said with emphasis. Her mom smiled from the memory.

MOM

Oh, that's where you went?

ALEXANDRA

Yes, there's a whole strip  
center now.

MOM

There's an ice cream parlor in  
the super Target.

ALEXANDRA

Whaaa, not just a Target but a  
super Target.

They both laughed.

MOM

Yeah, this small country town  
ain't so small and country  
anymore.

ALEXANDRA

Oh yeah, y'all still country.

MOM

Oh you hush.

She playfully punched her in the arm and they laughed.

MOM

So are you by saying 'y'all'.

Alex licked out her tongue like she used to do as a kid and  
jumped up from the sofa so her mom couldn't slap her tongue  
like she used to when she was a kid.

ALEXANDRA

Well, how about you change  
outta your moo-moo into  
something cute...

Her mom cut her off.

MOM

Hey, I don't wear moo-moo's,  
this is my robe.

ALEXANDRA

Uh huh, yeah, moo-moo. Anyway,  
is the theatre still open?  
Let's go catch a movie.

MOM

Really? Okay, I guess for that  
I'll go change.

ALEXANDRA

Ahhh, please do.

Her mom smiled. They both went into their rooms to change  
and she quickly sent Terrence a 'good morning, baby' text.

FLASH CUT:

They were in Alex's Wrangler driving and listening to the  
radio when her radio announced she had a message. She put  
her earbud in her ear to listen to it. She waited until they  
were at a signal light then she replied back.

MOM

Oh by the way, that theatre is  
a dollar movie now.

She said looking at Alex.

ALEXANDRA

What? Y'all don't have an  
actual movie theatre anymore?  
Isn't that going backwards.

She said more as a statement than a question.

MOM

That is an actual theatre.

ALEXANDRA

I mean one with updated  
movies?

Her phone vibrated again and her mom side-eyed her.

MOM

Oh well, wow, I haven't gone  
to see a movie since, anyway.  
There is another theatre a lil  
ways off.

ALEXANDRA

How lil is a lil ways off mom?

They stopped and she used that time to answer the text.

MOM

You remember where the  
Johnson's used to live?

ALEXANDRA

Uh, you wanna drive?

Her mom laughed.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

No, seriously.

MOM

Fine, pull over.

As they tried to pull over to switch, an aggressive horn blower was blowing their horn at them as if they were doing something wrong. She was about to let her window down and wave them around until she noticed it was the same pickup truck from the evening before.

ALEXANDRA

Ugh, that's Brian.

MOM

Oh, is it?

Her mom looked out the window behind them.

MOM (CONT'D)

I recognize his truck.

BRIAN

Hey ladies.

ALEXANDRA

Hi Brian.

Her mom barely looked at him as she mumbled his name and got into the driver's seat. Alex tried to make her transition just as quickly but, he had already parked, jumped out and was standing between her and the door.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

What's up, Brian?

Before he said a word, she could smell the alcohol on his breath again.

BRIAN

So you gonna have dinner with  
me or wha?

ALEXANDRA

Well, I'm gonna have to see  
what mom has planned.

She was hoping in her heart her mom would say they had  
plans.

BRIAN

Aww, you don't have to lie  
Alley Cat, you already said  
no.

She wondered how he could remember anything in his state and  
why was he driving.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

I just thought maybe you  
changed your mind.

ALEXANDRA

Well, I am here to spend time  
with my mom Brian, so I said  
I'll have to see...

He cut her off.

BRIAN

Fine, Alley Cat, just go.

He stepped aside and tried to open the door for her but  
almost fell in the process.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

All you women do is lie  
anyways.

Alex thought about commenting but didn't wanna provoke him.  
Once she got in the jeep on the passenger side her mom drive  
away.

ALEXANDRA

What's up with him?

MOM

Who Brian?

ALEXANDRA

Yes.



MOM

Well you know most of you guys  
went away for college right?

ALEXANDRA

Yeah, but didn't he leave  
also?

MOM

Well, he...

ALEXANDRA

He had a scholarship didn't  
he?

MOM

Well, he did and if you let me  
answer I'll explain.

She gave her the side eyed glance and Alex laughed.

ALEXANDRA

Up, my bad, go on.

MOM

He had a scholarship until he  
and some of his friends were  
caught smoking and boozing it  
up one night.

ALEXANDRA

(She gasped.)

He lost his scholarship for  
that?

MOM

And when I finish telling the  
story you can ask your  
questions.

Then it was Alex's turn to side eye glance her mother. She  
continued.

MOM (CONT'D)

The dean said it wouldn't have  
been an issue except that it  
wasn't their first time. They  
had been doing it. But, it had  
been getting covered up until  
this particular time when a  
parent of a player from a  
rival team, caught them.

Alex gasped again but refrained from speaking.

MOM (CONT'D)

And you know they were on a winning streak at the time. So, the parent that caught them was law enforcement and he did some digging and found out there were more times than the school wanted to admit.

She continued.

MOM (CONT'D)

So, there was this whole investigation into it where the dean and the staff were covering it up and...

ALEXANDRA

No my gawd, I remember this from the news.

MOM

Yup, a whole scandal. So, he lost his scholarship the school almost got shut down because they lost their creditability but their alum stepped in. As for Brian, he couldn't get a decent job so, he had been living with friends or in his car until it was found and taken.

ALEXANDRA

Oh wow. How do you know all this?

MOM

Why else do you think I go sit at the church during the week?

ALEXANDRA

OMG, mom really?

MOM

I mean I'll help them clean and what not. Get ready for Sunday morning but yeah. I have to stay in the know.

They both laughed.

MOM CONT'D

But wait, I'm not done.

ALEXANDRA

Oh wow.

She looked out the window and hardly recognized where they were.

MOM

So that's around the time Ms.  
Jesse, his mom...

ALEXANDRA

I remember her name.

MOM

So, that's around the time she  
started getting sick. At first  
some people didn't believe her  
saying, she was faking because  
of her beloved son's scandal.

ALEXANDRA

What's wrong with her?

MOM

Alzheimer.

Alex made a sad face but didn't interrupt her this time.

MOM (CONT'D)

Some didn't believe her until  
she would disappear all times  
of the day or night.

ALEXANDRA

Disappear?

MOM

Alexandra Nicole!

ALEXANDRA

I'm sorry Miss Broussard, go  
on.

She said to the retired school teacher. Her mother smiled  
and continued.

MOM

She would have spells and just  
leave the house. Naked  
sometimes. So, George would  
dress her at night in case she  
got out again.

ALEXANDRA

Aww.

MOM

I know right. So, people started to believe her. So, at that time George seemed to have to handle her care on his own, then he started getting sick.

ALEXANDRA

Oh wow, poor Brian.

MOM

Screw Brian, poor Ms. Jesse.

Alex was about to ask why then thought she'd better not.

MOM (CONT'D)

So, after a lot of begging and almost bribing him, Brian, who was a full fledge alcoholic by then, came home.

Alexandra shook her head.

MOM (CONT'D)

He just went through his dad's settlement. Good thing George had the house and stuff paid off before Brian got back.

ALEXANDRA

That's good.

MOM

George passed and Brian was livid.

ALEXANDRA

What!? Why!?

MOM

Because now, according to George's will, Brian has to care for his mom. He can have medical assistance at the house but he CAN NOT put her in a facility. Or his money goes bye bye.

Alex sitting in the passenger seat staring at her mom, with her mouth opened in shock, hadn't noticed they had stopped.

ALEXANDRA  
Tinseltown!?

MOM  
Yep. We had a Magic Johnson  
but it closed.

ALEXANDRA  
I'll bet.

MOM  
Too expensive. No one went.  
Welp, let's see what's showing  
and the times.

They got out the jeep and headed toward the box office.

ALEXANDRA  
Well, it looks like we have  
time before our movie starts.

As they walked back toward the jeep.

MOM  
So, what you wanna do until  
then?

ALEXANDRA  
I don't know, I hope it's not  
far and I'm not driving.

She said rushing toward the passenger side door.

MOM  
Oh yeah, I see.

They got in, she started the jeep and her cellphone rang.  
She put the jeep back in park to answer it.

MOM (CONT'D)  
Hello. Yeah, she came last  
night. No, we're out shopping  
right now, then going to watch  
a movie later.

ALEXANDRA  
(Whispering to her mom.)  
Who is that?

MOM  
Your aunt.

Alex shook her head and smirked her lips.

ALEXANDRA  
Are they still coming  
tomorrow?

Her mom shook her head and held up one finger.

MOM  
Okay, bye, see you then.

As she hung up, she put the jeep in 'D' and started to drive.

MOM (CONT'D)  
She said they were on their way now to stay at the house with me because they didn't think you were coming.

ALEXANDRA  
You told her I was already here and what did she say?

MOM  
Nothing.

Alex looked at her mom and smirked in disbelief.

ALEXANDRA  
Seriously? You just gonna lie to my face like that?

MOM  
I'm going to slap your face talking to me like that.

ALEXANDRA  
Really, is that where we're going with this? You're pulling rank.

MOM  
Ugh, she said she was surprised but glad, so they would come down in the morning, and we could all drive to the parade together.

ALEXANDRA  
Mmhmm. She was surprised, but, I told her I was coming.

MOM  
Well, you know how your aunt can be sometimes.

ALEXANDRA

Yeah, like her sister. You probably didn't think I was coming either, did you?

MOM

It doesn't matter, you're here and I'm glad. I'm enjoying our time together.

ALEXANDRA

I am too.

She looked at her mom driving and reached over to put a hand on her shoulder.

ALEXANDRA CONT'D

So where are we going?

MOM

We're here.

Alex looked out the window in amazement.

ALEXANDRA

I guess I need to start paying attention. Y'all have a whole mall now?

MOM

A whole mall, she said laughing, versus what? Having what a 1/2 a mall?

Smacking her lips.

ALEXANDRA

You know what I mean.

MOM

Nope, only what you said.

She winked at her as they got out the jeep and walked to the mall entrance.

FADE OUT:

**FADE IN - WALKING OUT OF THE MALL**

An hour later, Alex and her mom were walking out the of mall laughing with bags from different stores full of things they had unnecessarily bought.

MOM

I can't believe we bought all this stuff.

ALEXANDRA

Well, you needed your stuff.

MOM

Up, how you figure that, I have a closet full of clothes.

ALEXANDRA

A closet full of moo-moo's don't count as clothes.

She playfully swung her bags at Alex. As they approached the jeep Alex popped the truck with the remote, they loaded it up and got in the jeep.

MOM

I'm getting hungry.

ALEXANDRA

Yeah, me too. Are we gonna eat at the movie?

MOM

No, nasty and over-priced.

ALEXANDRA

Ugh, figures. So, what's good around here?

MOM

Well, that would be my cooking but...

Alex smacked her lips saying,

ALEXANDRA

Welp, that's not an option right now.

MOM

A nice Italian place your dad and I liked. It's going towards the theatre.

ALEXANDRA

Okay, Italian sounds good.

MOM

So, why do you hate coming home so much?



Alex was shocked, that came from out of nowhere.

ALEXANDRA  
Because it was so boring  
growing up here.

MOM  
But you see how much it's  
changed?

ALEXANDRA  
Yes, and I'm glad, but I still  
wouldn't wanna move back here.

Before she knew it she said,

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
Why don't you come stay with  
me?

MOM  
You don't want me to stay with  
you.

She said trying to give her an out.

MOM (CONT'D)  
What would the good doctor  
say?

ALEXANDRA  
He wouldn't care besides, he  
has his own place.

MOM  
Are you serious?

ALEXANDRA  
Sure, why not.

She was starting to be okay with the idea.

MOM  
For how long?

ALEXANDRA  
Until you get tired and want  
to come home.

They rode in silence until the sound of a horn came blaring  
out of nowhere.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
Oh, my gawd, no!

MOM  
What's wrong?

ALEXANDRA  
Oh, never mind.

She looked to see it was only a train horn.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
I thought it was Brian again.

MOM  
Aww poor thing. He has you  
stir crazy.

ALEXANDRA  
Mom, he's gotten so weird now.

MOM  
He's always been weird, Alley  
Cat.

ALEXANDRA  
OMG, ugh you remember that?

MOM  
Of course, your dad and I...

She stopped and took a deep breath, looked at the track, the  
arms were coming up with no train in sight.

ALEXANDRA  
It's fine if you wanna talk  
about him mommy.

More awkward silence until the train horn blared again. Once  
the railroad arms went up they started to drive again.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
What I don't understand is why  
he hates his mom so much?

MOM  
He only came back for the  
money. I think, he thought  
she'd be gone by now.

ALEXANDRA  
That's sad.

MOM  
It really is.

It made Alex think about all the times she had been mean to her mother. Alex turned her radio on to break the silence. Once they made it to the restaurant her mom went to check table availability while Alex called Terrence. By the time she finished talking to Terrence, who was now making his afternoon rounds, she saw her mother waving for her to come in.

ALEXANDRA

I vaguely remember this place.

She said as they sat and were handed menus.

MOM

Yeah, the three of us used to come here from time to time.

ALEXANDRA

It looks a little different than I remember though.

MOM

Yeah, they renovated. Same owners and the menu got better.

ALEXANDRA

Yeah, I see that.

MOM

So, what did the good doctor say?

ALEXANDRA

About what?

MOM

You didn't even ask him, did you?

ALEXANDRA

Ask him what mom, it's my place.

MOM

Well, I'm just asking.

ALEXANDRA

Asking what?

MOM

Nothing. You sound like you're getting mad so, don't worry about it.

ALEXANDRA

I'm not mad, I'm confused.  
What do I need to ask him?

MOM

Don't worry about it baby, you  
have that short fuse like your  
father had.

ALEXANDRA

Ha, that's funny, the only  
time you wanna talk about dad  
is when it's negative.

MOM

That's not negative. I loved  
your father short fuses and  
all. Just like I love you.

By the time their food and drinks came they had been silent  
again for several minutes. They had eaten in silence barely  
speaking to each other.

Alex glanced at her watch. The movie started in 30 minutes  
and Alex was glad they didn't pre-order the tickets because  
all she wanted to do now was shower and relax with a hot cup  
of chamomile tea.

MOM (CONT'D)

You don't wanna see a movie  
anymore do you?

ALEXANDRA

We can if you want to.

MOM

That's not what I asked?

ALEXANDRA

No, actually I don't and it's  
not because I'm mad because  
I'm not.

MOM

I didn't say you were, I'm  
tired. So, I figured you were  
also.

ALEXANDRA

I am. I just wanna shower and  
chill with a cup of chamomile  
tea.

MOM

Right, that you got from your  
mom. Your dad hated tea, he  
was a coffee drinker.

ALEXANDRA

Ugh, I hate coffee.

MOM

Me to.

They laughed and were both secretly grateful the awkwardness  
had passed.

FADE OUT:

### BACK AT THE HOUSE

Once back at the house they both closed their room doors.

ALEXANDRA (SPLIT SCREEN)

Hey baby.

TERRENCE (SPLIT SCREEN)

Hey babe, how's it going.

ALEXANDRA

It's going pretty well. I  
asked her to come back with me  
but she hasn't answered.

TERRENCE

Why not?

ALEXANDRA

I don't know doctor. I'll be  
sure and ask again.

TERRENCE

Yeah, you do that.

ALEXANDRA

You act like you want her  
there.

TERRENCE

I do. I like momma Broussard.

ALEXANDRA

Ha okay. I'll ask her to come  
again and that you asked this  
time.

TERRENCE

Good deal, he yawned, I'm  
sorry babe my shift just  
ended.

ALEXANDRA

Really, I thought you were  
home asleep already.

TERRENCE

Nope, on my way there now.

There was a knock on her door.

ALEXANDRA

Hold on baby, come in.

Her mom opened the door and stuck her head in.

MOM

You decent?

ALEXANDRA

Depends on what you call  
decent.

MOM

Stop it!

They both laughed.

MOM (CONT'D)

You have company.

ALEXANDRA

Really!? Who!? Oh my gosh, no.

MOM

Mmhmm.

TERRENCE

What's going on?

ALEXANDRA

Um, nothing baby.

She put her shoes on and went to the living room.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

You get some rest baby. I'll  
talk to you tomorrow.

TERRENCE

You sure everything's okay?

She hung up the phone and went to the front door.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)

Hello?

Terrence realized she hung up, so he did also.

BRIAN

Hey Alley Cat.

ALEXANDRA

Hey Brian, what are you doing here?

BRIAN

You forgot about our date?

ALEXANDRA

I said I'd let you know.

BRIAN

Well, I thought maybe you forgot.

ALEXANDRA

How could I ?

She said under her breath.

BRIAN

What you say?

ALEXANDRA

Nothing. Brian, I'm exhausted all I wanna do really is just relax and watch tele...

BRIAN

Coo, I watch television.

He said cutting her off and pushing past her.

ALEXANDRA

No, Brian what are you doing?

She tried to stop him before he got to the sofa. She noticed he still smelled of alcohol.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

You can't stay here.

BRIAN

Why not? We just chillin' watching TV right?

ALEXANDRA  
Brian please leave.

BRIAN  
Why Alley Cat? Why is  
everybody trippin' with me?

He said as he stumbled around the living room.

MOM  
Do you want me to call the  
police?

ALEXANDRA  
No mommy, I got it.

She grabbed Brian's arm and his size and condition almost  
took them both down.

ALEXANDRA AND MOM  
Whoaa!

Her mom jumped toward them for support.

ALEXANDRA  
Thanks, I got him mom, can you  
grab the door please.

MOM  
Sure. What are you going to do  
with him?

ALEXANDRA  
Take him home.

BRIAN  
Why y'all talkin' 'bout me  
like I ain't here!?

He tried to snatch his arm away and almost fell over.

MOM  
Are you sure about that?

ALEXANDRA  
Yeah mommy, I'll be fine. Can  
you grab my purse out the room  
please.

She maneuvered him outside and to the passenger side of his  
truck. All she did was open the door and he climbed in  
without a word.



Her mom came out with both of their purses and got into her car to follow them. The closer they got to the house Alex felt like the atmosphere around them started to change. The air seemed thicker and the sky seemed gloomy.

She wanted to ask what the heck happened to the house but decided not to since he was passed out anyway.

She drove into the driveway and the sound of the gravel made him flinch but stayed asleep.

When she got out of the truck she noticed they were being watched in a section of blinds that had been a look out point for a lot of occasions.

Alex waved at the barely hanging blinds to who she could only think was Miss Jesse and the curtain closed quickly.

She got into the car with her mother, still holding on the Brian's keys.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Let's go please before he  
wakes up.

They drove back home as fast as they could, driving the speed limit.

MOM

When are you going to give him  
his keys back?

ALEXANDRA

I'll come by some time  
tomorrow on my way to the  
festival.

Her mom looked at her and smirked.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

What?

MOM

You are your father's  
daughter. Always taking care  
of other people.

Alex smiled and looked out the window. When they finally made it back to the house all she wanted to do was sleep.

FADE TO BLACK:

**FADE IN**

Alex and her mom were awakened by excessive pounding on the door with simultaneous door bell ringing. They both came rushing into the living room at the same time.

MOM

Who is it!?

MALE VOICE

It's me!

MOM

Who is me!?

MALE VOICE

It's Max, open the door!?

They both exhaled as her mom opened the door.

ALEXANDRA

What's wrong unc, the doorbell  
made you mad?

He pushed passed them and went looking through the house to see if anything seemed out of place. Her aunt walked in and both Alex and her mom hugged her in a group hug.

MOM

Hey Lulu, what's going on with  
your husband?

LULU

Do you know there are cops  
outside?

ALEXANDRA

What!?

She ran to the window to see and was surprised to see Brian's truck parked out front surrounded by police cars.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Oh my gawd, it's Brian again.

She ran to her room, put on some sweats, tennis shoes, grabbed his truck key and rushed outside to see what was going on.

LULU

We were outside for almost  
half an hour ringing the door  
bell and knocking before you  
answered.

They could hear doors open and close in another part of the house as Max's search continued.

LULU (CONT'D)  
We thought something had  
happened to you two.

Max came back into the living room after his inspection.

MAX  
Where's my niecypoo?

He asked as he hugged his sister in law.

MOM  
She went outside.

MAX  
Outside!? Why!?

He yelled and turned towards the door.

LULU  
Yes baby.

She said as she grabbed his arm.

LULU (CONT'D)  
Where are you going?

MAX  
Outside!

LULU  
Go Max, see why she's out  
there.

MOM  
Because she knows the guy  
that's out there. I'm going to  
get dressed.

She said as she turned and headed to her room to get dressed.

MAX  
You mean that passed out  
drunk? How!? Why!?

MOM  
They grew up together, let me  
go get dressed. Max don't go  
out there mad and yelling.

LULU  
Don't go out there at all,  
I'll go.

MOM  
We both know that's NOT gonna  
happen.

LULU  
You're right. Go get dressed  
and we'll all go.

MAX  
Well get dressed and I'll be  
outside.

They heard him in the distance because he was already  
walking out the door.

**EXT - OUTSIDE**

Max walking outside towards Alex, who was talking with two  
of the three officers.

ALEXANDRA  
...so my mom and I drove him  
home.

OFFICER #1  
Did you leave the key with  
him?

ALEXANDRA  
No, I have them here.

She handed the keys to the officer.

OFFICER #2  
And then what happened?

ALEXANDRA  
Mom and I got in her car and  
came home.

OFFICER #2  
So you didn't know he was out  
here?

ALEXANDRA  
No, not until just now.

OFFICER #1  
So, he didn't attempt to come  
inside the house again?

MAX  
Officer are you listening, she  
just said she didn't know he  
was even out here.

OFFICER #1  
Excuse me, but who are you?

MAX  
I'm her uncle.

ALEXANDRA  
It's fine unc, Officer, I  
didn't know he was out here.

OFFICER #2  
Were you here when the  
incident took place?

He said looking at Max. By this time the ladies had made it  
outside.

LULU  
Incident? What incident?

OFFICER #2  
Who are you ladies?

MAX  
Lulu, I got this babe.

The officer signaled for Lulu to answer his question.

LULU  
I'm her aunt,  
(pointing to Alex)  
and this is my sister, her  
mother Natalia  
(pointing at her sister)

By that time Alex used that moment to walk toward a third  
officer, trying to wake Brian.

OFFICER #1  
So who lives here?

He asked since he'd been standing taking notes, since his  
partner took over the questioning.

NATALIA  
I do officer.

OFFICER #2  
Alone?

MAX  
What's the relevance of that question?

OFFICER #2  
Sir, I'm not gonna tell you again.

MAX  
Tell me what? You haven't told me anything.

He stepped back to point over at Brian.

MAX (CONT'D)  
Tell me who is that and are you gonna get him outta here before the neighbors wake up?

OFFICER #1  
Sir, step back or I'll have to arrest you for interfering with a police matter.

MAX  
Ha, you got the wrong one officers.

He said with a matter of fact attitude.

MAX (CONT'D)  
You have no probable cause for that, so go and arrest the drunken guy and tow away his vehicle.

LULU  
Max, let them finish.

OFFICER #2  
We're done here ma'am.

MAX  
Exactly.

He walked over to Alex and the third officer.

MAX (CONT'D)  
 Come on in the house neicypoo  
 so they can take this drunk  
 and have this truck towed.

He said in a tone loud enough for the other two officers to hear and come over.

ALEXANDRA  
 You're gonna arrest him?

MAX  
 Why shouldn't they, look at him.

He pointed at Brian while the third officer was still trying to wake him.

MAX (CONT'D)  
 If he were one of us he'd be  
 in cuffs by now to say the  
 least.

Alex side eyed her uncle as she stepped closer to Brian slightly between him and the officer.

ALEXANDRA  
 Bri.

She said as she shook his arm with her other hand stroking his head.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
 Bri, wake up, it's Alley Cat.  
 He's barely breathing. Did you  
 call for an ambulance for him?

Max reached passed his niece to check Brian's neck for a pulse.

OFFICER #3  
 Sir, don't touch the suspect.

ALEXANDRA  
 Suspect!? What did he even do?

By that time Officers 1 and 2 had come over to them, followed by Natalia and Lulu.

OFFICER #3  
 Ma'am, he...

OFFICER #1  
 We're done here.

He said cutting him off as if he were about to divulge government secrets. Officer 2 waved to one of the tow trucks that had been parked down the street eagerly anticipating a pickup.

Two of the three officers wrestled a still passed out Brian from his truck, while the third officer checked him for weapons, cuffed his hands behind him and put him in the back of one of the police cars.

Once all the police cars and tow trucks were gone, Alex and her family went back inside the house.

#### INT - INSIDE THE BROUSSARD HOME

MAX

What kinda relationship you had with that young man that would make him drink, drive his truck into the ditch and pass out in the front of your parents house?

ALEXANDRA

Really unc, you say that as if I made him do it. And you wonder why I don't care to come home and visit. I haven't seen Brian since high school.

She tried to walk past and go to her room but her mom grabbed her arm.

NATALIA

Honey, don't walk away when your uncles talking to you.

ALEXANDRA

Mom, I'm a lil frazzled right now. Can I get a minute please?

She said as she walked passed them in the living room, went to her room grabbed her clothes and went to the restroom; with trembling hands she turned on the shower.

By the time she came out they were sitting at the table eating but said nothing to her. Alex got her plate from the microwave and sat down to eat.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

I apologize. I don't know why I was so shaken.



He reached across the table and patted her on the arm.

MAX

It's okay niecypoo, Nat  
explained everything.

She was relieved because she didn't want to talk about it.  
She sat there picking at her food until she realized they  
were done and waiting for her.

LULU

Are you okay to go with us? Do  
you wanna stay back to rest  
and join us later?

ALEXANDRA

Nah, auntie I'll, be fine. I  
just don't wanna drive.

MAX

Oh you don't have to worry  
about that, cause no woman  
drives me anywhere.

He said partially as a joke to lighten the mood but serious  
also, as they were getting into her uncle's SUV.

ALEXANDRA

I don't know why it affected  
me the way it did but, I guess  
I was in shock or something.

Natalia, sitting in the backseat next to her daughter,  
grabbed her hand.

NATALIA

Hopefully this festival will  
help you forget about it and  
feel better.

ALEXANDRA

I hope so too.

They drove in silence with the faint sound of jazz playing  
in the background.

FADE OUT:

#### **NEXT SCENE - WALKING AROUND THE FESTIVAL**

Walking around the festival helped her clear her head for a  
few sporadic moments until saw someone or something that  
reminded her of Brian.

ALEXANDRA

Oh my gawd! How is Miss Jesse?

NATALIA

Well, I told the officers to go by the house and check on her.

ALEXANDRA

Uh, good, with all that was going on I didn't call Terrence today.

NATALIA

Aww, poor Dr. T, at least text him to let him know you're okay.

Looking at her mother in wonderment.

ALEXANDRA

Ooook, I know y'all like each other and what not but take in down peg.

Her mom playfully punched her in the arm.

NATALIA

Ha, hater.

ALEXANDRA

Ha, not.

They both laughed.

FADE OUT:

#### **INT - BACK AT THE BROUSSARD HOME**

After a very long and eventful day Alex was ready for that relaxing cup of chamomile tea now. As much as she loved her aunt and uncle she was hoping they would drop them off and head out, and that's exactly what they did.

Alex kissed her mom good night, grabbed her night clothes, sent Terrence another text and headed to the restroom to take a shower.

NATALIA

If the offer still stands I'd like to go back with you for a little while.

ALEXANDRA

Of course it still stands.

They both smiled, Alex gave her mom another kiss on her forehead and went into the restroom. When she came out she could hear her mom snoring from the other side of her bedroom door.

She glanced at her cell phone and saw she missed a call from Terrence after he sent two unread messages.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Dang, how long was I in there?

She said to herself, aloud, while looking at the time. She called him back and he answered on the first ring.

TERRENCE (O.T.P.)

Hey babe. Your text was a lil off. Are you okay?

ALEXANDRA

I'm fine. It was a crazy long day to end a crazy weekend though.

TERRENCE

Really? How bad could a festival have been?

ALEXANDRA

No, the eventful part was before we even left for the festival.

TERRENCE

I'm sorry babe. I'm sorry that you had even gone back there.

ALEXANDRA

Oh no, being here with mom has been cool. It's some other stuff, I can't wait to get back home to tell you about.

TERRENCE

Oh, why can't you tell me now?

ALEXANDRA

I'm exhausted baby, I won't even need a cup of tea to get some sleep. But, I wanna hit the road early in the morning.

TERRENCE

Oh wow, one of those days,  
while on vaca.

ALEXANDRA

Yeah, exactly.

TERRENCE

I'm sorry babe, get you some  
rest. You'll be back home this  
time tomorrow.

She smiled through the phone just at the thought.

ALEXANDRA

Mmhmm, that sounds so good.  
Good night baby.

TERRENCE

Night babe.

They disconnected. Alex sat Indian style on her bed with a blank gaze in her eyes, wondering how Brian was doing. How was Miss Jesse dealing with all of this, was Brian still in jail, would he be crazy enough to come back here. What did he do on the way here that alerted the police. A swirl of questions in her head, she grabbed her phone again.

Once she finished she could stop thinking about it. She prayed, turned off the light, got into bed and fell right asleep.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

After breakfast the ladies shut down everything, locked up the house and were on the road early the next morning. Laughing and talking like high school besties on a road trip.

ALEXANDRA

Whooa, finally home.

NATALIA

Welp, you sound relieved.

ALEXANDRA

Seriously!?

NATALIA

L.O.L., I'm jk'ing.

ALEXANDRA

Oh oh, you come out the  
boonies and now you're using  
text talk. OMG!

They parked the jeep and got out. While they were unloading Alex noticed Terrence's car parked in the visitor section. Smiling to herself, she was hoping he was still asleep and not headed back to the hospital.

NATALIA

Is the good doctor here?

She asked as they walked through the door.

ALEXANDRA

He is.

She put down the bags she had and smiling she grabbed Alex's keys.

NATALIA

I forgot I needed to stop by  
the store. You mind?

Alex smiling because she knew what her mom was thinking.

ALEXANDRA

Nope, not at all, be careful.

NATALIA

I will...

ALEXANDRA AND MOM

Love you.

They said in unison. Alex waited for her mom to drive away before she went to her room.

NEXT SCENE:

Even though she had the keys in her hand she decided to knock before entering.

TERRENCE

Momma Broussard.

He said as he opened the door, grabbed her bags and leaned down to give her a kiss on the cheek.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)

I'm so glad you came to stay  
with us.

He put her bags on the the dining room table and gave her a bear hug. They both laughed when Alex walked into the room.

ALEXANDRA

Oh that hug is too long.

She said jokingly while looking through the bags her mom brought back. Terrence released her mom and they met Alex in the dining room.

NATALIA

Jealousy is not a good color  
on you daughter.

ALEXANDRA

Ha, that's where you're wrong  
mother dear, I make every  
color look good.

TERRENCE

Wow, come here babe.

He picked Alex up, gave her a bear hug and kiss on the lips.

NATALIA

Um, y'all not done yet?

They all laughed as he put her down.

TERRENCE

Momma B, what is all this?

Alex went back to take things out of bags and placing them on the table.

NATALIA

Well, I figured with you two  
at work during the days I may  
as well cook.

ALEXANDRA

Mommy you didn't have to shop.  
We have food or we could've  
paid for food.

TERRENCE

Does this mean no more eating  
out?

He chimed in smiling, it was meant as a joke but it caused them both to look at him and smirk.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)  
Well, anyway, I was gonna  
chill today on my day off but,  
now I'm full of energy.

He and Alex looked at each other, she smiled and he winked  
at her.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)  
You ladies wanna ride down to  
Kemah?

Alex looked at her mom as if to say, well do you?

NATALIA  
That sounds like fun.

They looked at Alex as if to say, well?

ALEXANDRA  
Okay, that's fine.

SCENE CUT TO:

The three of them were in Terrence's car on the road.

TERRENCE  
So, did you ladies wanna stop  
and eat on the way...

NATALIA  
No, we can eat once we get  
there.

She shouted from the backseat cutting him off. The two in  
the front seat looked at each other and laughed.

ALEXANDRA  
Well, alright then.

NATALIA  
I just want some authentic  
seafood. It's hard to find out  
in the country.

ALEXANDRA  
I can only imagine.

TERRENCE  
It's fine, anything you want  
momma Broussard.

Alex could see from the corner of her eyes her mom in backseat smiling. So she reached over and grabbed Terrence's right hand.

ALEXANDRA

Oh baby, I need to tell you  
what happened when I was in  
the country.

NATALIA

When you were back home.

She yelled from the backseat.

ALEXANDRA

Ugh, yes mother.

Terrence laughed and Alex said eyed him as if to say,  
nothing was funny.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Anyway, now that I'm back I  
have to tell you how eventful  
my weekend was.

She began to tell him all about the weekend starting with  
the encounter in the strip center parking lot.

TIME CUT:

TERRENCE

Oh wow!

NATALIA

I know right.

Her mom said from the backseat. What she didn't disclose was  
that she had called the police station to ask about Brian.  
Since and only since the reporting officer put her name on  
the report they told her, because no charges were filed they  
would only hold him until he sobered up. They provided him  
with AA information and released him. The sobering him up  
part comforted her a bit.

Meanwhile, she had dazed and didn't hear anything Terrence  
was saying to her.

TERRENCE

Al? Baby, you hear me?

He shook her hands that were still holding his right hand  
and that shocked her back into reality.



ALEXANDRA  
Huh? I apologize, what?

TERRENCE  
I asked were you okay?

She paused while searching for the right word to use.

ALEXANDRA  
It was surreal.

He pulled their hands up toward his lips and kissed her hand.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)  
Like a bad movie.

TERRENCE  
I'm sorry baby.

ALEXANDRA  
Oh it's all good. The movie is over.

NATALIA  
Well, I hope that didn't stop you from wanting to come home.

ALEXANDRA  
Mmmm, I'll still visit you in the boonies.

TERRENCE  
You can always visit us more.

As a reflex Alex jerked her neck and looked at him quickly.

NATALIA  
Oh no, I don't wanna impose.

They were exiting the freeway.

TERRENCE  
Oh no, you wouldn't be.

Cutting his eyes to see Alex but not wanting to turn and look at her.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)  
Isn't that right, Alley Cat?

He said facetiously.

ALEXANDRA

Your sarcasm is wasted on me.

She slapped his right hand with her right hand.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

It would be nice if you visit  
us more.

He was circling the parking lot and they realized how packed  
it was.

ALEXANDRA (CONT'D)

Wow, it's really packed her  
today.

TERRENCE

It really is. Well, you ladies  
wanna go somewhere else?

ALEXANDRA

No, this is fine.

They had finally found and parked in a spot that was down a  
ways but not too far.

NATALIA

It's okay with me.

They got out and walked toward the plaza where the live  
bands play. The band was in a remission so they decided to  
go and eat fresh seafood until the band started again.

THE END