

UNREDEEMED

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1. INT. HOUSE - DAY

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We see a black screen. We hear a man's voice.

MAN'S VOICE
You're nothing but a whore!

2. INT. BEDROOM - HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

We see a MAN standing over a little GIRL. He's wearing a wife beater holding a bottle of whiskey. The GIRL cowers in a corner crying.

MAN
You're a piece of shit! Just like your mother.

The MAN moves in closer. The GIRL tries to back away. He lunges at her.

GIRL (SCREAMS)
Noooooooo!!!

3. INT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S OFFICE - DAY

We see CLARA, awkward yet attractive lying on a leather couch across from her therapist DR. MILLER.

DR. MILLER
That's good Clara. Great job of openly expressing yourself.
You're making great progress.

CLARA takes a deep breath and closes her eyes. DR. MILLER sits down her notepad, removes her eye glasses and stands up. She walks over to CLARA.

DR. MILLER (CONT'D)
I'm proud of you Clara.

DR. MILLER gently touches CLARA'S shoulder. CLARA exhales and begins to pant and sweat. CLARA opens her eyes and looks up at the ceiling. She sits up quickly.

CLARA
I can't do this anymore.

DR. MILLER removes her hand from CLARA'S shoulder. CLARA slides to the edge of the couch. DR. MILLER returns to her chair and picks up her pen and pad and sits down. CLARA begins to rock back and forth.

DR. MILLER

I can see how hard this can be for you, Clara. I encourage you to keep progressing. Don't give up.

CLARA slowly looks up. They share a glance.

DR. MILLER (CONT'D)

I know your past has an effect on you, but you must learn to face your demons head on.

Tears stream down CLARA'S face. She looks DR. MILLER in the eyes.

CLARA

Don't tell me what I need to do. There's no way you could ever understand.

4. INT. BEDROOM- APARTMENT - DAY

We see CLARA sitting at the edge of her bed. She's holding a pill bottle. The label reads: **TRIAZOLAM**

We hear CLARA'S cell phone ring. It startles her. CLARA reaches for her phone. She clears her throat and answers.

CLARA

Hello? (Listens) Yeah, hi Kathy.
(Listens) Yeah, I'm fine.

CLARA looks down at her wrist.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Yeah, I know. 8 o'clock. (Listens)
Right, I'll be there. (Listens)
Okay, bye.

CLARA hangs up. She looks down at the pill bottle.

CLARA (MUTTERS) (CONT'D)
Maybe another time.

CLARA picks up the bottle and it in a nearby drawer.
She takes out some lip balm and walks to the bathroom.

5. INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

CLARA enters the bathroom and stands in front of the mirror.
She stares at herself momentarily. She puts on the lip balm as
she studies herself in the mirror. She shakes her head and
throws down the lip balm. She sighs and leaves the bathroom.

6. EXT. PARLIKNG LOT - RESTAURANT - NIGHT

We see CLARA pull into the parking lot. She gives herself a once
over in the rear view mirror before getting out of the car.

CLARA
Show time!

CLARA walks toward the restaurant.

7. INT. RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

CLARA enters the restaurant. The restaurant is crowded and
noisy. She scans the room for her FRIENDS. CLARA spots her
FRIENDS at a far table. One GIRL waves in her direction.

GIRL ONE (SHOUTS)
Clara!

CLARA is obviously embarrassed and sends over a half wave. GIRL
ONE motions for her to come over. CLARA reluctantly walks toward
the table.

As CLARA walks past the bar, she bumps into a MAN.

CLARA (EMBARASSED)
Oh! I'm so sorry.

MAN
No, it's okay. No harm, no foul.

The MAN laughs. CLARA shyly tucks her hair behind her ear. The MAN attempts to make eye contact. CLARA avoids his eyes. He extends his hand.

MAN (CONT'D)
Hi, I'm David.

CLARA stares at his hand.

DAVID
Its okay, I don't bite.

David chuckles as he stands grinning, hand still extended.

CLARA slowly looks up at DAVID. She takes a deep swallow.

CLARA
H... Hi... I'm Clara.

DAVID still has his hand out. CLARA is locked into his face. CLARA finally shakes his hand.

DAVID
Clara...

We hear yelling coming from the far table occupied by CLARA'S FRIENDS.

GIRL 1 (O.S.)
Clara, come on. Fuck!

CLARA'S eyes widen in embarrassment. DAVID covers his mouth with his hand to keep from laughing.

CLARA
Oh my God! I'm so sorry. They're drunk.

DAVID
No worries. I'm pretty sure my friends are smashed too.
Awkward silence.

GIRL 1 (O.S.)
Clara, would you come already? Jesus!

GIRL 2 (O.S.)

Leave her alone! Can't you see she's talking to that super-hot guy? Jesus, you're such a dumbass!

CLARA is clearly embarrassed. CLARA lets DAVID'S hand go and covers her mouth.

CLARA
Oh, God.

DAVID chuckles.

DAVID
So, maybe I'll catch you later, huh?

DAVID smiles and steps back. He turns and heads back to his FRIENDS. CLARA watches him walk away.

CLARA (HEAVY SIGH AND MUTTERED) (CONT'D)
Yeah, maybe.

CLARA hangs her head and shamefully walks towards her FRIENDS.

GIRL ONE
O! M! G! Clara! That guy was TOTALLY hot! Did you get his number?

GIRL TWO
Shut up, you whore! Did you see him? Clara definitely isn't his type.

CLARA frowns.

CLARA
Why not?

GIRL TWO
Because, Clara. You're such a virgin.

GIRL ONE laughs.

GIRL ONE
You're so right. What was I thinking? Clara can't handle that stallion.

CLARA grows upset.

GIRL ONE (CONT'D)
But I can show him a thing or two.

GIRL ONE begins walking towards DAVID'S direction. GIRL TWO grabs her arm and pulls her back.

GIRL TWO
Calm down, hooker. You're going to marry Keith, remember?

GIRL ONE
Yeah, well. I'm not married yet. I can still have one more go around.

GIRL TWO (LAUGHS)
God! You are such a fucking whore!

CLARA looks over at DAVID and sighs. DAVID notices CLARA. They share a glance. He waves at her. She shyly turns away and focuses on her FRIENDS.

CLARA
Anyway, where's Kathy?

KATHY sneaks up behind CLARA.

KATHY
Boo!

CLARA is startled.

CLARA
Oh my God! Bitch! Where have you been?

They share a laugh. KATHY pulls out her phone.

KATHY
Say cheese!

KATHY snaps a selfie with her phone.

KATHY
Okay, can we please go get a drink?

GIRL ONE
What about us?

KATHY
We're going to leave you two whores here!

CLARA and KATHY walk away. KATHY turns around and sticks out her tongue. GIRL ONE flips her the bird. KATHY and CLARA find an empty table. A WAITRESS approaches.

KATHY (CONT'D)
AMF for me, and...What are having, Clare-Bear?

CLARA
I'm good with just a water please.

KATHY
Ha! Hell no! We're at a bar. You're getting a drink!

CLARA
Kathy!

KATHY
She'll have an AMF as well.

The WAITRESS nods and walks away. KATHY glares at CLARA.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Girl, what the fuck? Water?

CLARA blushes and looks down at the table.

KATHY (CONT'D)
So, tell me. How was it?

CLARA
It was alright. You know, whatever.

CLARA scoops out the room to avoid eye contact with KATHY.

KATHY
So, you mean to tell me that after two years of therapy you're still not healed?

CLARA rolls her eyes. KATHY notices that CLARA is upset. She reaches out and touches her hand.

KATHY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry Clare-Bear. Your Dad was an asshole and your mom was a drunken slut.

CLARA tears up. She wipes away her tears.

KATHY (CONT'D)

I can't even imagine the bullshit that your parents put you through. From the outside looking in, I would say just forget and move on. You've gotta let go and move on, girl.

CLARA glances at KATHY.

KATHY (CONT'D)

After all you've been through, you turned out alright.

CLARA laughs.

CLARA

I guess.

KATHY

I say fuck 'em all. Move on with your life. Find a hot guy and get laid, dammit!!

CLARA looks over at DAVID.

CLARA

Yeah, maybe.

The WAITRESS arrives and places their drinks on the table.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Thank you.

CLARA remains seated quietly with eyes cast to the floor while the WAITRESS is present.

KATHY lifts her glass as the WAITRESS walks away.

KATHY

Well, here's to happiness!

CLARA reluctantly lifts her glass. They toast and drink.

CLARA frowns at the taste, but takes another sip. She visibly feeling the effects of the alcohol.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Look at these two idiots. So fuckin' embarrassing.

CLARA looks back at GIRL ONE and TWO. She shakes her head.

CLARA
Crazy.

Suddenly DAVID is present at CLARA and KATHY'S table.

DAVID
What's crazy?

CLARA is startled.

CLARA
David, you scared me.

KATHY looks DAVID up and down.

DAVID
Sorry, sweetie.

KATHY
Sweetie? Clara, who is this?

DAVID
Hi, I'm David. Clara's friend.

KATHY
Is that right?

DAVID extends his hand in KATHY'S direction. KATHY extends her hand to shake his. KATHY gives CLARA a look of approval.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Mmmm... Okay, David. I'm Kathy, Clara's best friend. Nice to meet you.

DAVID
The pleasure is mine, Kathy.

KATHY looks at CLARA and mouths the words "Oh my God".

DAVID (CONT'D)
So, what's crazy?

CLARA
Um...Oh...Nothing, just girl stuff.

DAVID
Girl stuff, huh?

CLARA looks at KATHY embarrassed.

KATHY
David, would you like sit down?

DAVID
No, thanks. I uh...

DAVID nervously rubs the back of his neck.

KATHY
Something wrong?

DAVID
Uh, no. Nothing wrong.

KATHY
You don't think my friend is cute?

CLARA
Oh my God! Kathy!

DAVID moves closer to CLARA. She avoids eye contact. He lifts her chin with his finger.

DAVID
I think she's beautiful.

CLARA gasps and blushes.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I'm actually getting ready to leave. I actually came over to get
your number.

CLARA
Me? I mean... Mine?

KATHY (INTERRUPTS)
(213)555-4121...

CLARA glares at KATHY. KATHY shrugs her shoulders and sips her drink. DAVID smiles and pulls out his phone. He saves CLARA'S number.

DAVID
Got it. Thanks Kathy!

CLARA (SARCASTIC)
Yeah, thanks Kathy.

DAVID
I really like you Clara. I hope you'll give me a chance.

CLARA and DAVID share a glance.

CLARA
I...um...I...

CLARA looks at KATHY. KATHY nods her approval.

DAVID
Can I call you later? Pleaseeeee?

DAVID makes puppy-dog eyes at CLARA.

CLARA smiles and giggles.

CLARA
Ok.

DAVID smiles.

DAVID
I'll call you later. Make sure you answer.

DAVID steps back and winks at CLARA.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Bye, Kathy.

KATHY waves and continues to sip her drink.

DAVID exits the restaurant as CLARA watches him leave.

KATHY

Girl!! You better watch out for that one. He is FINE!!

KATHY laughs and finishes her drink. CLARA sits there blushing.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Come on Clare-Bear. Let's go.

KATHY puts her arm around CLARA as they walk away.

8. INT. BEDROOM - APARTMENT - DAY

CLARA is in bed asleep. Her cell phone rings waking her up. She scrambles for her phone. She finally finds it and shuts it off. CLARA buries her face in her pillow.

CLARA

Ugh! Fuck!

CLARA rolls over and stares at the ceiling. She rubs her eyes and sits up. Her phones goes off again. She looks down it at. CLARA picks up her phone and sees a text message.

Text message reads:

"Good morning beautiful. This is David. What are your plans for today?"

CLARA sits up smiling.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Oh my God! He actually...What am I supposed to do?

CLARA sits there silent. She picks up her phone and dials.

INT. BEDROOM - HOUSE - DAY

KATHY is asleep. Her phone rings. She rolls over to answer her phone.

KATHY (INTO THE PHONE)

Someone better be fucking dead or in prison. Fuck that! They better be on fire and in my living room right fucking now.

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CLARA (V.O.)

Kathy!

KATHY

Clara? Girl, what? What's wrong? Are you in prison? You better be, bitch!

CLARA

I'm not in prison.

KATHY

Then what the hell?

CLARA

He texted me.

KATHY

Who?

CLARA

Seriously?

KATHY

Listen, I'm still drunk from last night. Why are you up so early? And on a Saturday at that.

CLARA

David! You know, the guy from last night.

KATHY

So why are you calling me? Call his ass!

TREY (O.S.)

Babe, what the hell. Hang up the damn phone.

KATHY

Fool, shut up! I'm talking to my girl.

TREY rolls over and fondles KATHY.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Boy, not now. My girl needs me. Save that shit for when I'm done.

TREY rolls back over.

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KATHY (CONT'D)

Anyway, like I was saying. Why you calling me instead of him?

CLARA

I need your help. I don't know what to say.

KATHY

What did he say?

CLARA

He asked what I was doing today.

KATHY

Well, what are you doing today?

CLARA

Uh, cleaning...And I...

KATHY

Stop, Hell no! Stop that shit right there!

CLARA

What?

KATHY

Do not tell that. Tell him that you have plans with me.

CLARA

Why? I don't want to lie.

KATHY

All women lie to their man.

TREY (O.S.)

What?

KATHY

Boy, shut up! I'm not talking about me.

KATHY rolls her eyes.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Just tell him that. Trust me.

CLARA
I don't understand.

KATHY
Look, if you play hard to get, you'll have him wrapped around your finger. He'll do anything you want him to if he thinks he can't have you. Trust me. It works.

TREY
What?

KATHY reaches over and strokes TREY with her free hand. He moans with pleasure. CLARA overhears on the phone.

CLARA
Ah, Kathy. Are you?

KATHY
What?

CLARA
Never mind.

KATHY
Like I said. Wrapped around your finger.

Brief pause.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Do you want him?

CLARA
I...I don't...

KATHY
You need to take a leap of faith girl. I don't want you to die alone.

CLARA
Gee, thanks.

KATHY
I'm just saying. Get to know him. Play it cool and take your time. Don't let your past dictate your future.

CLARA
Maybe you're right.

KATHY
I know I'm right. Trust me.

KATHY looks over at TREY.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Look girl, I gotta go. Go talk to yo man.

CLARA (SIGHS)
Okay.

KATHY
Talk to you later, girl. Love you!

CLARA
Love you too.

They end the call. KATHY looks over at TREY.

8. INT. BEDROOM - APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

CLARA looks down at the text message and smiles.

CLARA (TO HERSELF)
Be myself...

She sighs and falls back in her bed. She grabs her phone and replies to DAVID'S text.

Text reads:

Good morning David. I was going to hang out with some friends this afternoon. What about you?

A text message comes through CLARA'S phone.

Text reads:

Cancel your plans and meet me. I'll pick you up at 1:00 o'clock. Send me your address and dress comfortably.

CLARA'S eyes widen. She takes a deep breath and lets out a nervous laugh. She regains her composure and replies.

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Text reads:

Ha! Ha!

A response comes through the phone.

Text reads:

I'm serious. Where can I pick you up?

CLARA stares wide eyed at her phone.

KATHY (V.O.)

You need to take a leap on this guy.

CLARA takes a deep breath and looks down at her phone.

CLARA (TO HERSELF)

Okay Kathy, I'll do it.

CLARA begins to text David back.

Text reads:

I'll be waiting for you at the cafe on the corner of 6th and Lincoln.

CLARA quickly puts her phone down. She nervously laughs to herself.

9. EXT. CAFE - STREET - AFTERNOON

We see CLARA standing in front of the cafe. She looks down at her watch. CLARA'S phone rings, startling her. She answers.

CLARA (INTO THE PHONE)

He...Hello.

DAVID (O.S.)

Dark roast, half and half, no sugar.

CLARA

What?

We see a hand reach around and hand CLARA a cup of coffee.

CLARA turns around.

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CLARA (CONT'D)
Oh my God, David! You scared me.

DAVID
Hello beautiful.

DAVID hands CLARA the coffee cup.

DAVID (CONT'D)
For you.

CLARA
Oh my gosh! Thank you.

CLARA pauses, looks at the cup, then at DAVID.

CLARA (CONT'D)
How did you know...?

DAVID
I'm really good at reading people.

CLARA is perplexed.

DAVID (CONT'D)
We should get going.

DAVID (CONT'D)
You ready?

CLARA
Yes.

They walk off.

10. EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

DAVID and CLARA walk towards DAVID'S car. DAVID opens the passenger side door for CLARA and she gets in. DAVID walks toward the driver side door and looks around before getting in the car.

11. INT. CAR - DAY

DAVID begins to drive. He turns on the radio. CLARA sits quietly fidgeting with her hands. DAVID concentrates on the road.

CLARA

So, umm...Where are you taking me?

DAVID

We have a few places on the agenda. I hope you enjoy them.

CLARA turns and looks out the window.

CLARA

So, what do you do for work?

DAVID

I'm an investigator.

CLARA

What do you investigate?

DAVID

People...

CLARA

I don't understand.

DAVID

I'm a Private Investigator, Clara.

CLARA

Really?

DAVID nods.

CLARA (CONT'D)

That's amazing. Sounds a little dangerous though.

DAVID does not respond.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Wait! Are you like that guy on the television show CHEATERS? The one who puts your business on blast in front of the world?

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DAVID chuckles.

DAVID

Not exactly. What I do is quite different.

CLARA

How so?

DAVID

Well, for starters I don't have a film crew following me around.

CLARA

Oh...

DAVID

I have a roster of clients who I gather information for. Once I give them what they need, my job is done.

CLARA

Oh, okay. Is it dangerous though?

DAVID

It can be at times. I enjoy what I do.

Brief pause.

DAVID (CONT'D)

So, do you enjoy being a secretary?

CLARA'S widen. She turns and looks at David.

CLARA

How did you know that?

DAVID

I told you. I'm a Private I.

CLARA

Yeah but, I never...

DAVID

Remember, I can read people very easily.

CLARA
Is that so? What do read in regards to me?

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DAVID
We're here.

DAVID parks the car. He looks at CLARA and smiles.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Come on. Gotta stay on schedule.

DAVID gets out of the car. CLARA looks out the window.

CLARA
Where are we? Is this...?

DAVID opens the passenger side door and reaches for CLARA'S hand.

DAVID
You like art?

CLARA steps out of the car.

CLARA
I love art!

DAVID escorts CLARA to the front entrance. CLARA looks on in amazement. She squeezes DAVID'S arm. DAVID looks over at CLARA and smiles.

12. INT. MUSEUM - DAY

DAVID and CLARA enter the museum. CLARA is visibly excited and looks around in awe.

CLARA
Oh my God, David! This is amazing. Thank you!

DAVID
Don't thank me Princess.

CLARA looks at DAVID.

CLARA

Princess?

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DAVID

Yes, Clara. You are a Princess. You deserve to be treated like one.

CLARA blushes.

DAVID (CONT'D)

One day you'll be my Queen.

CLARA

David...

DAVID stares into CLARA'S eyes. CLARA shyly looks away.

DAVID grabs her hand and pulls her closer. CLARA takes a deep breath.

DAVID

I don't know what it is about you, Clara.

CLARA

David...

DAVID

Feel this.

DAVID takes CLARA'S hand and puts it to his chest.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You feel how fast my heart is beating?

CLARA slowly nods.

DAVID (CONT'D)

That's how you make me feel, Clara. I haven't felt this way in a long time.

CLARA

I...I don't understand.

DAVID

I know it sounds crazy, Clara. You have this thing over me that I can't explain or describe.

CLARA exhales. She avoids eye contact and looks down at the ground.

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DAVID (CONT'D)

I just want you to be mine, Clara.

CLARA

David, I don't know...

DAVID

Just think about it. You are something special. I can see it. I can feel it.

CLARA looks up at DAVID. He smiles at her. She smiles back.

CLARA

Wow, David. I don't know what to say.

DAVID

Say you'll think about it. Let me show what kind of life you can have with me.

CLARA takes a deep breath and smiles.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Tonight is just the tip of the iceberg, Clara. I can treat you like the princess you are.

CLARA

David...

DAVID

With me, you will want for nothing. Money, houses, cars...I will spare no expense to make you happy.

CLARA

David, I don't want your money.

DAVID

It's not about the money, Clara. I want to give the sun, the moon and the stars.

CLARA giggles.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I'm serious.

CLARA

David, this is all happening so fast. I need some time.

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DAVID

Of course. As long as you need, Princess.

CLARA smiles.

DAVID and CLARA share a smile and embrace.

DAVID

You ready for the next surprise?

CLARA'S face lights up with a huge grin.

13. EXT. PARK - DAY

We see a car pull into a park. DAVID and CLARA get out. They share a glance.

DAVID

I hope you don't mind a stroll in park.

CLARA

Not at all. It's so beautiful out right now.

CLARA gazes up at the sky, taking in the beautiful weather.

DAVID

It's one of my favorite places to come and just think.

CLARA nods and smiles his way.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Great place to reflect.

DAVID looks at CLARA.

DAVID takes CLARA'S by the hand. They make their way through the park.

14. EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

We see DAVID and CLARA walking through the park. They are engaged in conversation.

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CLARA
And that's how I met Kathy and Trey.

DAVID laughs.

DAVID
They sound like quite the pair.

CLARA
Yes, they are two characters, but they are great for each other.
I love them dearly.

DAVID smiles and listens intently.

CLARA (CONT'D)
I don't know what I'd do without them. Especially Kathy. She's
always been there for me.

DAVID stops in his tracks and grabs CLARA by her shoulders,
turning her body to face his full on. DAVID looks into her eyes.

DAVID
You don't need Kathy anymore. You have me now.

CLARA
What?

DAVID
Clara, I'm all you'll ever need.

CLARA attempts to pull away. DAVID tightens his grip on CLARA'S
shoulders. CLARA winces with pain and looks at DAVID with
concern.

CLARA
David, you're hurting me.

DAVID ignores her and looks at her intensely.

CLARA (CONT'D)
David!

DAVID snaps out of it and loosens his grip. CLARA pulls away and rubs her shoulder.

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DAVID
Clara, I'm so sorry.

DAVID reaches for CLARA'S hand. She quickly pulls it away.

CLARA
What's wrong with you David?

DAVID
I'm sorry Clara. I don't know what came over me. I just...

CLARA
Just what?

DAVID hangs his head in shame. CLARA'S mood turns from anger to concerned.

CLARA (CONT'D)
David, what is it?

DAVID continues to hang his head and remains silent, showing nothing but embarrassment and concern.

CLARA
David, I have shared so much with you. Yet, I know nothing about you... Except that you're a Private Eye.

DAVID looks up at CLARA.

DAVID
I'm sorry, Clara. That will never happen again. I promise.

CLARA exhales.

CLARA
David...

DAVID
It sounds like you have some really great friends, Clara. It's a good thing to have. We're not all so lucky.

CLARA looks into DAVID'S eyes with concern. Her demeanor softens.

DAVID

Please forgive me, Clara. It was an honest mistake.

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CLARA continues to look into DAVID'S face as she smiles. DAVID takes CLARA'S hand, brings it to his lips and kisses it. DAVID continues to hold CLARA'S hand.

DAVID

Come with me.

DAVID smiles at CLARA and begins to pull her softly as he walks. CLARA cautiously follows DAVID. Moments later we see a full picnic on the grass. CLARA, looks at DAVID surprised.

CLARA

Oh my God, David! How did you... I mean... Who...

DAVID

I hope you don't mind. I thought we could have an outdoor, candle lit dinner by the lake.

CLARA

David, this is beautiful. How do you make everything so perfect?

DAVID smirks at CLARA.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

CLARA and DAVID enjoying their picnic. CLARA and DAVID are on several dates. DAVID bringing CLARA flowers. Phone calls and laughter. DAVID and CLARA sit on the hood of his car watching the sunset.

15. EXT. HOTEL - NIGHT

We see a car pull up to the hotel. DAVID and CLARA sit inside. It's obvious that DAVID and CLARA'S relationship has blossomed and they are far more comfortable with each other.

16. INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

DAVID turns the ignition off. CLARA looks at him and smiles.

CLARA

David, I love you.

DAVID smiles at CLARA. He gets out of the car and walks to the trunk. CLARA remains in the car. DAVID grabs a bag from the trunk and closes it, once again looking about the parking lot to
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see if anyone is watching. He walks to the passenger side door and opens it. DAVID extends his hand to CLARA to help her out of the car.

DAVID
Princess.

CLARA blushes and looks around in amazement. They enter the hotel arm and arm.

17. INT. HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

We see a CLERK standing at the desk. As DAVID and CLARA approach he looks up.

CLERK
Ah, Mr. David, welcome.

DAVID
Good evening.

CLERK
I have your suite ready for you.

DAVID
Thank you.

CLERK
Should a summon James for your bags?

DAVID
No, no. I've got it. Thank you.

CLERK
Of course, sir.

The CLERK slightly bows as he hands DAVID his room key.

CLERK (CONT'D)
Have a pleasant night, Mr. David.

DAVID
Thank you.

29

DAVID and CLARA walk away.

CLARA (LOUD WHISPER)
Whoa!

DAVID looks at CLARA.

DAVID
What's wrong?

CLARA
They know you by name.

DAVID laughs.

DAVID
Oh.

CLARA and DAVID enter an elevator. The ATTENDANT nods in DAVID'S direction. DAVID remains very nonchalant.

ATTENDANT
Mr. David.

DAVID smiles and nods back. CLARA is in awe of how DAVID is greeted. DAVID, unfazed looks over at CLARA. The elevator door closes.

The room door opens and DAVID and CLARA enter. CLARA looks around the room.

DAVID
Here we are.

CLARA
Wow!

DAVID
Make yourself at home.

CLARA
This is...David, you live here?

DAVID ignores the questions and places the bags down.

30

DAVID
The bathroom is on the right.

CLARA walks around the room, seemingly oblivious to DAVID'S words.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Clara, you should go freshen up. Our reservation is at 8 o'clock.

CLARA opens the curtain to enjoy the view. DAVID approaches with her bag in his hand.

DAVID (CONT'D)
If you want to shower, there are plenty of towels in the bathroom.

CLARA turns and looks at DAVID. He hands her the bag.

CLARA
Thank you.

CLARA gives DAVID a peck on the cheek then goes into the bathroom and closes the door. We hear the water running. DAVID walks over to the bathroom door.

DAVID
I'm really glad you're here, Clara.

CLARA (O.S.)
I'm really glad I'm here too, David.

DAVID

CLARA
Okay.

Moments later CLARA emerges from the bathroom. DAVID is on his laptop. DAVID is dressed in a handsome suit. He looks up at CLARA and smiles.

CLARA (CONT'D)

What?

31

DAVID puts down his laptop and walks towards her. CLARA is visibly nervous. DAVID gets closer. CLARA backs up and bumps into the dresser. DAVID leans forward.

DAVID

You look so beautiful.

DAVID gently kisses her on the forehead. They share a glance. CLARA smiles brightly. DAVID smiles and walks back to his laptop. CLARA watches DAVID with a look of deep love for him. DAVID turns around and grabs his keys. CLARA mouths the words 'Oh my God' as DAVID has his back turned. DAVID turns toward CLARA. She quickly changes her expression.

DAVID

You ready to go?

CLARA

Mmmm Hmmm...

DAVID

Shall we, gorgeous?

DAVID extends his hand in CLARA'S direction. She slowly walks toward him and takes his hand. They exit the hotel room.

18. INT. CAR - NIGHT

DAVID and CLARA sit in DAVID'S car. DAVID drives while CLARA sits in the passenger seat. There's awkward silence. CLARA fidgets with her purse. DAVID looks over at her.

DAVID

I can put on some music, if that's okay?

CLARA

Yeah, of course. Whatever you want.

DAVID turns on the radio. CLARA feels her cell phone vibrating. She searches in her purse for her phone.

DAVID
Everything okay?

32

CLARA finds her phone, looks to see that Kathy's name appears on the caller ID and silences her phone. CLARA looks at DAVID and smiles.

CLARA
Yeah, everything is great!

DAVID looks at CLARA, but remains silent then he focuses on the road.

CLARA (CONT'D)
So, ummm... Where are you taking me now?

DAVID
Dinner, dear.

DAVID smirks and looks over at CLARA. CLARA laughs and shakes her head. She looks out the window. DAVID looks down at CLARA'S hand. He reaches down and grabs it, gently squeezing it. She looks at DAVID. DAVID smiles and continues to drive.

19. EXT. PARKING LOT - RESTAURANT - EVENING

DAVID and CLARA pull up to a restaurant. A VALET approaches. DAVID gets out of the car.

VALET ONE
Good evening, sir.

A second VALET approaches, opens CLARA'S door and extends his hand to help her out. CLARA takes his hand as she gets out of the car.

VALET TWO
Madam.

CLARA
Thank you.

CLARA looks on in amazement as they enter the restaurant.

20. INT. RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

DAVID and CLARA approach the HOSTESS station.

33

HOSTESS

Good evening, Mr. David. It's so nice to see you again.

The HOSTESS looks at DAVID intensely. CLARA picks up on it and looks over at DAVID. DAVID nods to the HOSTESS, but doesn't say a word.

HOSTESS (CONT'D)

Right this way, please.

The HOSTESS leads DAVID and CLARA to a secluded table. DAVID pulls out a chair for CLARA. She sits down. DAVID sits across from CLARA.

HOSTESS (CONT'D)

Your server will be with you shortly.

DAVID

Thank you.

HOSTESS

Have a fantastic evening, Mr. David.

DAVID smiles and nods. The HOSTESS walks away. CLARA glares at her as she walks away. CLARA glares at DAVID. DAVID ignores CLARA. CLARA sits there in silence.

KATHY

Clara?

CLARA looks and sees KATHY and TREY standing at their table.

CLARA

Oh my God! Kathy! Trey! What are you two doing here?

CLARA stands up and hugs KATHY.

KATHY

Girl, it's our anniversary. We are here to cel-e-brate!

CLARA

Oh God! I can't believe I forgot. Kathy, I'm...

DAVID clears his throat, interrupting.

34

CLARA (CONT'D)

David, I'm sorry. You remember Kathy? And this is...

DAVID stands up and shakes TREY'S hand.

DAVID

I'm David. Good to meet you, Trey. I've heard a lot about you.
Kathy, it's good to see you again.

The SERVER approaches the table with a bottle of wine in his hand.

SERVER JOHN

Good evening, Mr. David. Madam. I see that you have additional
guests.

CLARA looks at KATHY. Then at DAVID.

SERVER JOHN (CONT'D)

May I order additional chairs to accommodate them?

CLARA looks on nervously.

DAVID

Well, we wouldn't want to be rude, now would we John?

DAVID shoots CLARA an evil glare. CLARA notices and lowers her eyes. KATHY watches her. She grows concerned.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Additional chairs are fine. That's if our guests would like to
join us.

KATHY is reluctant.

KATHY

Oh, we...

DAVID

Trey, what do you say my friend?

TREY looks at KATHY.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I'd be honored if you joined us?

35

TREY
Oh, yeah. Thanks, man.

DAVID
Perfect!! Two additional chairs it is.

SERVER JOHN nods and looks across the room and snaps his fingers to a SECOND SERVER listening nearby. The SECOND SERVER nods and walks off to get two more chairs.

SERVER JOHN
Can I start everyone off with some wine?

CLARA
Oh, yes please.

KATHY
Now we talking! Party!

KATHY laughs and does a small dance in her chair.

TREY shakes his head at KATHY and smirks.

DAVID
No, thank you John. No wine for me or the lady.

CLARA looks at DAVID. She nervously looks down at her feet. TREY and KATHY share a glance and raised eyebrows.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Get our guests whatever they want. Just water for us.

KATHY looks at CLARA.

DAVID looks at SERVER JOHN.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Your best wine for my guests, John.

SERVER JOHN

Very good, sir.

CLARA sifts through the menu. DAVID reaches over and takes her menu from her. CLARA looks at DAVID.

36

DAVID
Oh, and John.

SERVER JOHN
Yes, sir.

DAVID extends his hand to SERVER JOHN, passing the menus back to him.

DAVID
Upon your return, we'll be ready to order.

SERVER JOHN
Very good, Sir.

SERVER JOHN slightly bows then walks away. DAVID smiles. CLARA, embarrassed looks over at KATHY. KATHY glares at DAVID. TREY nudges her.

TREY
I guess we should look over the menu.

21. INT. RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER

The SERVER returns with everyone's drink order.

SERVER JOHN
Are we ready?

DAVID gestures to TREY to start. TREY looks down at the menu.

TREY
Yeeeaahh... I'm going to have the steak and lobster.

SERVER JOHN
Very good, sir. For the lady?

KATHY
I'll have the lamb.

SERVER JOHN
Excellent.

SERVER JOHN turns to DAVID.

37

DAVID
Bring two of my usual, John. Thank you.

SERVER JOHN
Very good, sir.

SERVER JOHN nods and walks away. CLARA looks at DAVID, confused.

DAVID looks at CLARA.

DAVID
Don't worry, you'll like it. Besides, it's healthy so it will do
you some good.

KATHY is visibly annoyed. TREY looks at her and shakes his head,
encouraging her not to make a scene. CLARA looks down at her
body. DAVID nonchalantly sits back in his chair.

DAVID (CONT'D)
So, Trey. Clara has told me a lot about you and Kathy.

TREY smiles.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Sounds like you two are quite the pair.

TREY
Yeah, that's my baby.

KATHY smiles at TREY. She then glares at DAVID.

DAVID
I understand you two have been together for quite some time now.

TREY
Oh, yeah. We've been together for a minute. Today is actually
our 4 year anniversary.

DAVID raises his brow and nods.

DAVID
Really? Wow, married 4 years. Congrats.

DAVID raises his glass. KATHY grows frustrated.

38

TREY
Oh, no, man! We're not married.

DAVID slowly lowers his glass.

DAVID
Hmmm, I guess some women would be happy with that.

DAVID looks over KATHY.

DAVID (CONT'D)
How do you feel about that, Kathy?

KATHY glares at DAVID.

KATHY
I see you're just full of intrusive questions, huh, David?

KATHY glares at CLARA. CLARA avoids eye contact.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Trey and I are happy together. We don't need a piece of paper to define our love. Right, Trey??!!

TREY
That's right, baby!!

DAVID and CLARA share a glance. DAVID begins to speak and never takes his eyes off of CLARA.

DAVID
Forgive my intrusion, Kathy. I just couldn't be with a woman for that long and not be married to her.

DAVID loosens his tie. CLARA grows nervous and uncomfortable.

DAVID looks at Kathy.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I suppose I'm more classic when it comes to love. I'm the get
down on one knee kinda guy, you know?

CLARA looks up and gazes at DAVID and smiles brightly as DAVID
continues to talk.

39

DAVID (CONT'D)

Fall in love, propose, the dream wedding. I hope Clara and I can
share all that one day.

CLARA'S eyes widen. KATHY looks at her. CLARA and DAVID share a
glance. DAVID reaches for CLARA under the table. He rubs her leg
and squeezes her hand. CLARA giggles and blushes.

SERVER JOHN approaches the table and sets the tray full of food
on a silver stand.

SERVER JOHN

Here we are. Your meals, ladies and gentlemen.

SERVER JOHN sets down everyone's plate in front of them.

SERVER JOHN (CONT'D)

Will there be anything else?

DAVID

No, John. This is perfect.

SERVER JOHN nods.

SERVER JOHN

Very well, sir.

SERVER JOHN gathers the empty tray and stand and walks away.

22. INT. RESTAURANT - LATER

We see empty plates and champagne glasses on the table.

DAVID, KATHY, CLARA and TREY share a laugh. DAVID leans in close
to CLARA.

DAVID

Did you enjoy it?

CLARA
Yes, it was perfect.

DAVID smiles.

40

DAVID
I knew you would.

SERVER JOHN approaches.

SERVER JOHN
How was everything for you tonight?

DAVID
Exquisite as always, John. I am never disappointed.

SERVER JOHN
Wonderful sir. May I bring you anything else? Desert perhaps?

DAVID
No desert, John. I have other plans for tonight.

CLARA glances at DAVID. KATHY and TREY share a glance and a raised brow. DAVID seductively looks at CLARA. CLARA blushes and lowers her eyes. SERVER JOHN clears his throat and focuses his attention to KATHY and TREY.

SERVER JOHN
And you, sir? Madam?

KATHY
No, thank you.

SERVER JOHN
Very good. I shall retrieve your bill, Mr. David?

DAVID reaches inside his jacket pocket and pulls out a wad of cash.

TREY
Whoa, David. I can pay for our dinner.

DAVID
Consider it a gift, my friend. For your anniversary.

TREY looks at KATHY. KATHY shrugs her shoulders. DAVID peels off three 100 dollar bills and hands them to SERVER JOHN.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Keep the change, John.

41

SERVER JOHN
Always a pleasure, sir. Good night to you all.

SERVER JOHN puts the money in his pocket and clears the table. DAVID stands up and grabs his coat. He looks down at CLARA.

DAVID
Are you ready, Princess?

CLARA looks up at DAVID and smiles.

DAVID extends his hand in her direction. CLARA takes his and stands up. TREY and KATHY stand and walk towards the exit. They make their way out of the restaurant. DAVID smiles at the HOSTESS as he walks past her.

DAVID
Thank you.

The HOSTESS smiles back at DAVID, then smirks at CLARA. CLARA frowns at her. DAVID locks arms with CLARA and pulls her close. CLARA nuzzles against DAVID and glares at the HOSTESS as they exit the restaurant.

23. EXT. RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

The group exits the restaurant as VALET ONE approaches. DAVID hands him a ticket. DAVID looks at TREY.

DAVID
Did you use valet?

TREY
Nah, I, uhh... didn't realize the restaurant had valet.

TREY is obviously embarrassed.

KATHY glares at TREY. TREY ignores her.

TREY (CONT'D)
Yeah, we parked around the corner.

DAVID
I see. Well, now that you know, I suppose you can plan better
for future visits.

42

TREY glares at DAVID.

TREY
Yeahhhhh...

The VALET pulls up with DAVID'S car.

TREY (CONT'D)
Damn, this is you?

DAVID smirks.

DAVID
Indeed.

TREY
Shit, yo! This is a sweet ass ride!

DAVID and TREY walk over to the car. DAVID shows TREY the
features on the car. KATHY walks over to CLARA.

KATHY
Clare-bear, you okay?

CLARA turns around to face KATHY.

CLARA
Yeah, of course. Why do you ask?

KATHY
I just want to make sure you're okay.

CLARA
Why wouldn't I be?

KATHY
Don't get me wrong, David is great and all...

CLARA

But...

KATHY
He's a little...

43

CLARA
A little what?

KATHY
Just something about him that I can't put my finger on.

CLARA
You have nothing to worry about. David is great and I'm fine.

KATHY
I don't know Clara. He just seems odd. Maybe a bit controlling?

CLARA
Well, he's not. He's perfect and you're jealous!

KATHY frowns and takes a step back.

KATHY
You know what?

CLARA
What?

KATHY
Never mind. Just...Just be careful.

DAVID walks over.

DAVID
Be careful with what?

KATHY
I was just telling Clara to be careful getting home.

DAVID
You have nothing to worry about. She's with me.

KATHY looks at CLARA and then at DAVID as DAVID places his arm around CLARA.

KATHY
Yeah. Trey, let's go.

44

TREY is still enamored with DAVID'S car. KATHY rolls her eyes.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Trey!!!

TREY looks over at KATHY.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Can we go please?

KATHY hugs CLARA tightly. She shakes DAVID'S hand.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Thanks again for dinner.

DAVID
My pleasure.

KATHY
Clare-bear, love you girl.

CLARA still upset gives a wry smile and waves. KATHY walks over to TREY and drags him away from DAVID'S car. CLARA and DAVID share a glance and a laugh.

24. INT. CAR - NIGHT

We see DAVID and CLARA seated in the car. DAVID is driving. DAVID looks at CLARA. DAVID reaches for the radio and turns it on. We hear a radio news caster on talk radio.

NEWS CASTER (V.O.)

And the case of Lindsay Brauer is re-opened as police have found new evidence that suggests she was brutally murdered in her sleep...

DAVID quickly changes the radio and begins playing a CD that is already inserted into this radio. His demeanor seems uneasy. We hear a foreign language as the song begins to play.

CLARA
What is this? French?

DAVID NODS.

45

DAVID
Yes. Basically this song is about a man who is describing his girlfriend. The song is entitled 'Formidable', which means 'Wonderful'. The whole song is him reflecting on how wonderful she was. He loses her; his everything and now he feels worthless.

CLARA looks at DAVID.

DAVID (CONT'D)
He is angry at everyone who has love.

CLARA
I took French in high school, but it sounds like maybe you understand him a little better than I do.

DAVID laughs and reaches for CLARA'S hand. He holds it tightly. CLARA smiles. The music continues to play.

25. INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

The hotel room door opens as DAVID and CLARA enter. CLARA looks around as DAVID closes the door. CLARA places her purse on the bed and takes off her shoes. DAVID stands in the doorway and watches her. CLARA stands with her back turned to DAVID. Suddenly he rushes her, grabs her by the throat and throws her to the bed.

CLARA (STARTLED)
David, what are you doing?!

DAVID says nothing. He kisses her and grinds his body against hers. He begins choking her slightly. She gasps for air.

DAVID
God, you're beautiful.

CLARA'S eyes are large and filled with fright as DAVID continues to press his body weight against her, pinning her to the bed.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Stay with me, Clara.

46

FLASHBACK SCENE:

We see CLARA as a child. She is pressed up against the wall by her father. CLARA is afraid and crying.

CLARA
Daddy, please stop.

END FLASHBACK SCENE:

DAVID releases his grip of CLARA. She stares at DAVID in fear. He climbs off of her.

DAVID
I'm so sorry, Clara.

CLARA slowly stands up and moves away from DAVID.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Please forgive me.

DAVID looks on with tears in his eyes. CLARA slowly backs up against the wall.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Do you hate me? Please don't hate me, Clara.

CLARA begins to cry.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I can't contain myself around you.

CLARA
David, don't...

DAVID
I'm in love with you, Clara.

DAVID slowly moves closer. CLARA backs up against the wall.

DAVID
Don't be afraid. I won't hurt you.

CLARA
David...

47

DAVID
Princess, I'm so sorry. Please...

CLARA'S demeanor softens as she looks at DAVID and his tear filled eyes.

DAVID
Please stay with me.

CLARA exhales. She nods.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I love you.

DAVID extends his hand in her direction. CLARA slowly reaches back for his hand.

DAVID guides her towards the bed.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Lay down with me.

DAVID lays down on the bed. He lays CLARA on his chest. He holds and caresses her. CLARA nervously shutters.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Thank you for understanding, beautiful.

CLARA takes a deep breath and tries to relax.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I've been looking for someone like you for so long, Clara.

CLARA
David...

DAVID

There's something you should know about me.

Brief pause. CLARA remains silent.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I was married once.

DAVID smiles to himself as he reaches back into his memory.

48

DAVID (CONT'D)
She was amazing. Smart, beautiful, and just such a great person.
CLARA looks up at DAVID as he stares up to the ceiling.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I really loved her, you know. She was everything to me.

CLARA
David, why are you telling me this?

DAVID
I want you to know me. What I've done, and with who.

CLARA
What happened to her?

DAVID takes a deep breath.

DAVID
She passed away a few years ago.

CLARA
Oh my God, David! I'm so sorry. How?

DAVID
Honestly, they aren't sure.

CLARA
They?

DAVID
The authorities. The belief is, it was a suicide.

CLARA
What? I can't believe it.

DAVID
Others say it was foul play.

CLARA looks at DAVID with concern.

CLARA
David, I don't know what to say.

49

DAVID
You don't have to say anything, Clara. Just listening is enough.
A moment of uncomfortable silence passes.

CLARA
David, I should really go.

CLARA tries to get up. DAVID holds her tighter.

CLARA (CONT'D)
David...

DAVID
Stay with me. I'm in love with you, Clara.

CLARA
David...

DAVID
I want to know you. Inside and out. I want to know all your
secrets. Every detail.

CLARA
David, this is too much.

DAVID
Just stay with me tonight. One night, Clara.

CLARA (WHISPERS)
David...

DAVID
Please...

CLARA sighs as guilt is pressured upon her.

CLARA

Okay, David. I'll stay with you. Just tonight.

DAVID looks relieved. CLARA relaxes and nuzzles on David's chest. DAVID has a peculiar smirk on his face. As he holds CLARA tight.

50

26. INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

We see CLARA in bed alone. She awakes up and looks around the room then sits up in bed.

CLARA
David..?

CLARA gets out of the bed and makes her way through the hotel room. She enters the empty bathroom and looks around. She walks back into the bedroom area and there is no sign of DAVID. CLARA is perplexed. We hear a knock at the door. CLARA walks toward the door and opens it. A CLERK stands in the doorway.

CLERK
Good morning, Miss Clara.

CLARA
Hello...

CLARA steps past the CLERK and looks out into the hallway.

CLERK
Is everything okay, Miss Clara?

CLARA
Have you seen David?

CLERK
Oh, Mr. David had to leave abruptly.

CLARA
He left?

CLERK

Yes, ma'am. He did arrange breakfast and a ride for you. It will take you anywhere you like.

CLARA looks disappointed. She hangs her head.

CLERK (CONT'D)
Miss Clara? Are you alright ma'am?

CLARA slowly nods, but never looks up. The CLERK gazes at her. 51

CLERK (CONT'D)
Very well. I will have room service here shortly.

CLARA
Thank you.

CLERK
Ma'am...

The CLERK nods and walks away. CLARA closes the door. She leans up against the door and sighs.

29. INT. HOTEL ROOM - LATER

We hear a knock at the door. CLARA emerges from the bathroom. She opens the door. We see a WAITER standing in the doorway.

WAITER
Good morning ma'am. Your breakfast.

CLARA
Yes, please come in.

The WAITER pushes a cart into the room. He removes several metal covers, revealing countless amounts of food.

CLARA (CONT'D)
Wow! Thank you. It smells amazing.

WAITER
Yes ma'am. Mr. David always requests the best for his guests.

CLARA
Guests? What do you mean, guests?

WAITER

Excuse my rudeness, Miss. I didn't mean anything by it. Please, enjoy your meal.

The WAITER places the food on a nearby table. CLARA looks confused and annoyed. The WAITER finishes preparing the food.

WAITER (CONT'D)
Enjoy, Miss Clara.

52

The WAITER rushes out of the room. The door closes and CLARA walks toward the table. She notices a note and a rose near the food. She smiles and picks up the rose and the note. She smells the rose.

The note reads:

*Clara,
I'm sorry for leaving you. I'll be in touch soon.
Yours,
D.*

CLARA smiles and places the note on the table. She walks over to the window and gazes at the morning skyline. She gently puts her hand on the window.

28. INT. DINING ROOM - APARTMENT - DAY

We see CLARA sitting at the table holding her rose and note. The phone rings. CLARA let's it ring for a moment before answering.

CLARA (INTO THE PHONE, DEPRESSED)
Hey, Kathy.

KATHY (O.S.)
Clara! Are you okay?

CLARA
Yeah, I'm fine. Why?

KATHY
What do you mean, why? I haven't heard from you in days!

CLARA sighs as she tosses the note on the table.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Every time I call you, it goes straight to voicemail. What the fuck??!!

CLARA

Look, I'm sorry Kathy. I just needed some time alone.

KATHY

Where the hell have you been?

53

CLARA

Here. I've been at home. I just...I'm fine.

KATHY

I thought ole boy chopped you up into little pieces. You could have told a bitch that you were alive.

CLARA laughs.

CLARA

Oh my God, Kathy. Don't be ridiculous.

KATHY

I'll show you ridiculous. Open the damn door.

CLARA

What?

KATHY

You heard me. Open the damn door.

CLARA walks toward the door. She opens it. We see Kathy standing in the doorway. They share a glance. KATHY has tears in her eyes. CLARA smiles and hugs her friend.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Assholes!

CLARA laughs through tears and holds KATHY tighter.

CLARA

I'm sorry, Kathy.

They release each other. KATHY enters the apartment and CLARA closes the door.

29. INT. DINING ROOM - APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

KATHY and CLARA enter the dining room. They sit at the dining room table.

KATHY
Girl, I thought you were dead.

54

CLARA
Dead? Oh my God, Kathy. Why would you think that?

KATHY
Ahhhhh, hello?

CLARA looks confused. Brief pause.

CLARA
David?

KATHY
Ding, ding, ding!!

CLARA laughs. KATHY glares at her. CLARA avoids eye contact.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Did something happen with David?

CLARA
No!

KATHY
You can't lie to me.

KATHY stares harder at CLARA.

CLARA
No...I mean yes...I don't know.

CLARA buries her head in her hands.

KATHY
Did he hurt you?

CLARA
No, Kathy. Oh my God. It's just...

KATHY
Just what?

Brief pause.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Did he fuckin' hit you?

55

CLARA
Kathy! No! It's just...We... it's stupid. Never mind. I'm fine.

KATHY glares at CLARA.

KATHY
Bitch! You can't lie to me. I know something went down. Now spill it...

CLARA sits in silence with her eyes cast to the floor.

KATHY (CONT'D)
I know how to get it out of you.

CLARA reaches over to the letter she tossed on the table a few minutes earlier and hands it to KATHY.

KATHY opens the letter and begins to read. She glances at CLARA and continues to read.

KATHY
That's it? He just disappears like that? What the fuck??!!

CLARA sits quietly.

KATHY (CONT'D)
"I'm sorry for leaving you. I'll be in touch." What is that shit about? And what the fuck does the 'D' stand for, huh? Bitch ass, pussy ass, dick ass motherfucker. That's what that shit stands for.

KATHY balls up the note and tosses it on the table.

CLARA
What do I do, Kathy?

KATHY

How long has it been since you last saw him?

CLARA
It's been three days.

KATHY
Three days??!! Fuck him!! He's not worth your time, girl.

CLARA looks at KATHY.

56

KATHY (CONT'D)
He's gay!!

CLARA
Oh my God, Kathy. He's not gay.

KATHY
Clara, it's been three days. If he doesn't contact you soon.
He's not interested. And he's gay.

CLARA
Kathy, just because a man doesn't call you after a date doesn't
mean he's gay.

KATHY
Oh yes the fuck it does.

They share a laugh.

CLARA
Thank you, Kathy.

KATHY
For what?

CLARA
For putting up with me.

KATHY
Of course. That's what best friends are for.

CLARA smiles and takes a deep breath.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Look, girl. I can't tell you what to feel or do. I just want you
to be careful... and happy. I know you think he's Prince

Charming and shit... and it seems like a dream come true, but just be careful.

CLARA sits silently, thinking over what KATHY is telling her.

KATHY

Yeah, he's loaded, good looking and probably hung like a horse..

57

CLARA

Kathy...

CLARA looks at KATHY with her head tilted, trying to be serious, but laughs and shakes her head in embarrassment.

KATHY

He better call you. If he doesn't I'm gonna kick his pretty, well hung ass.

CLARA

Kathy!!

KATHY shrugs her shoulders.

CLARA (CONT'D)

You are so crazy. You always know how to make me laugh.

KATHY

Oh, I know to get laughter out of you...

CLARA

Kathy...

KATHY begins to wiggle fingers in CLARA'S direction. CLARA slowly stands up.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Kathy, don't you do it.

KATHY walks towards CLARA. CLARA takes off running. KATHY chases after her. We hear CLARA laugh and giggle.

CLARA (LAUGHS) (CONT'D)

Kathy, stop!!

KATHY giggles.

30. INT. OFFICE - DAY

We see CLARA sitting at desk. She stares blankly at the computer screen. She taps her pen against the desk.

DAVID (O.S.)
Hello beautiful.

58

CLARA'S eyes widen. She stops tapping her pen. CLARA slowly looks up. We see DAVID standing in front of her holding a bouquet of flowers. DAVID smiles at CLARA. She looks annoyed and confused.

CLARA
David...

DAVID
You don't seem happy to see me.

CLARA stands up. She glares at DAVID.

CLARA
Happy? David, where have you been?

DAVID hands CLARA the flowers.

DAVID
It's been too long, Clara. I've missed you.

CLARA refuses to take the flowers.

CLARA
Missed me? You disappeared. Missed me? It's been two months, David.

DAVID
Clara... don't be angry with me, Princess.

CLARA
Are you kidding right now?

DAVID looks disappointed. He hangs his head.

CLARA (CONT'D)

What do you have to say for yourself?

DAVID takes a deep breath.

DAVID
It's complicated, Clara.

CLARA
Complicated?

59

DAVID
Yes. I suddenly had to leave for work.

CLARA
Work? Really David? What kind of job do you have that forces you
to vanish? Not even a phone call?

DAVID
Please don't make me explain.

CLARA rolls her eyes.

CLARA
Right, you can't talk about it.

DAVID
Exactly...

CLARA
So, what are you doing here?

DAVID
I wanted to take you to lunch.

DAVID tries again to give CLARA the flowers.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I missed you, Clara.

CLARA exhales and glares at DAVID. He gives her puppy dog eyes. She soon gives in and takes the flowers. CLARA smells the flowers and smiles.

CLARA
I missed you too.

DAVID is relieved.

DAVID
So, lunch?

CLARA
I can't.

DAVID
Why not?

60

CLARA
Because I get off in an hour.

DAVID
Okay, I'll wait.

CLARA smiles.

CLARA
Okay.

DAVID walks away. CLARA goes back to her desk. DAVID turns around.

DAVID
Clara...

CLARA
Yes...

DAVID
I'll wait for you forever.

CLARA blushes as she watches DAVID walks away. We hear her desk phone rings.

CLARA
Thank you for calling Smith and Downey. How may I help you?

CLARA takes notes on a pad while she talks on the phone.

31. EXT. PARKING LOT - LATER

We see CLARA emerge from the elevator and enter the parking lot. She holds the flowers in her hand.

CLARA'S happiness quickly fades as she looks out across the parking lot and discovers that DAVID is once again missing. CLARA checks her phone for a missed call or text and is disappointed to find there are none.

Suddenly, CLARA is grabbed from behind.

61

DAVID
Boo!

CLARA is startled.

CLARA
Oh, God! David! You scared me! Where were you?

DAVID laughs in an evil way and let's go of CLARA.

DAVID
You're always so innocent, Clara. Come on.

DAVID begins to CLARA as he walks towards his car.

CLARA
Where are we going? I have my car here. I really don't want to leave it.

DAVID
Alright. Take it home and leave it there. I'll follow you.

CLARA pauses for a moment, feeling unsure of the idea, and looks around the parking lot.

CLARA
Ummm... Yeah. I guess that would be okay.

DAVID smirks at CLARA then kisses her cheek.

DAVID
Of course it's okay. I'll be right behind you.

CLARA smiles nervously at DAVID then they part ways and enter their own vehicles.

31. INT. CLARA'S CAR - EVENING

Once in her vehicle, CLARA calls KATHY as DAVID follows closely behind her in his own car.

62

KATHY (O.S.)
Halla atcha girl!

CLARA
KATHY!

KATHY
Girl? What?! What happened?

CLARA
He's back!

KATHY
Who? The Mack? He returned?(SINGING) Return of the mack, once again, return of the mack...

KATHY laughs.

CLARA
KATHY! Seriously. David. He came back!

KATHY
Wait. What? He called you after like MONTHS of NOTHING? Man, fuck that dude. I hope you told him to go suck on a hairy nut and hung up on his ass.

CLARA
Well... Not exactly.

KATHY
Not exactly what?

CLARA

He sort of... just... showed up at my work.

KATHY

What the hell? Showed up at your work? Psycho...

63

CLARA

C'mon, Kathy. It's not like that. He is really sweet. He brought me this really beautiful bouquet of flowers and...

KATHY becomes angry and concerned and cuts CLARA'S words off.

KATHY

I don't give a shit what he brought you. That man disappeared without a trace for months. Fuck that shit. And how the hell does he know where you work anyway?

CLARA becomes angry as she listens to KATHY.

CLARA

I don't know! He said he was working! God! I thought you'd be happy for me! Apparently I was wrong. Sorry I even called you!

KATHY SOFTENS VOICE)

I'm sorry, Clara. It's just weird. He doesn't seem right. I just want you to be safe.

CLARA

I am safe with him, Kathy. Just forget I called. Talk to you later.

KATHY

Clara!

CLARA hangs up on KATHY shortly before pulling into her residence. CLARA throws her phone into her purse in frustration.

CLARA pulls in and DAVID pulls in right behind her. DAVID and CLARA both exit their vehicles.

CLARA begins walking towards DAVID, expecting to leave right away.

CHARACTER DAVID:

In a hurry to go? Not going to invite me in?

64

CLARA stops walking and is surprised and embarrassed.

CLARA

Oh... Ummm... I thought we were leaving right away. I... I wasn't really expecting company.

CLARA looks nervously at DAVID then down to the ground.

DAVID

Awww, come on, Clara. I'm not going to judge you. Plus, you wouldn't deny me using your restroom, would you?

DAVID gives his puppy dog eyes to CLARA again and steps closer to her, lightly rubbing against her. CLARA giggles and snuggles DAVID for a moment.

CLARA

Of course, David. Come on in.

DAVID smirks at CLARA

DAVID and CLARA walk to the front door of her house as DAVID smiles in an evil manner behind her.

32. INT. CLARA'S APARTMENT - EVENING

CLARA opens the door, allowing DAVID into the house. As DAVID steps in, his eyes begin wandering around the room.

CLARA

The bathroom is down that way, to the left.

DAVID hesitates for a moment, seeming to forget why he was in the house in the first place.

DAVID

Hmmm? Oh. Right. Thanks.

65

DAVID in the direction of the bathroom and disappears. CLARA tries to clean up as fast as she can before DAVID returns. After a few moments of CLARA rushing to clean up, DAVID emerges from the hallway.

CLARA is clearly embarrassed as DAVID catches her cleaning up.

CLARA

Oh...Hey...

DAVID

You don't have to clean up, Clara. I know not everyone lives like I do.

CLARA stands frozen, with her facial expressions showing she is taken back and embarrassed by his comment.

DAVID

Come here, babe. Leave it. It's perfect... Just like you.

CLARA'S face softens. DAVID sits on the sofa, making himself comfortable as CLARA stands nearby.

DAVID

Come here. Sit with me.

CLARA puts down the items she was cleaning up and walks to DAVID, sitting next to him. DAVID pulls CLARA in closer to him as snuggles his nose into her neck.

DAVID

Why do you want to be so far? Didn't you miss me?

CLARA giggles like a teenaged girl next to DAVID.

CLARA

What? Of course I did! You have no idea.

DAVID pulls CLARA'S chin towards him.

66

DAVID

Then tell me.

CLARA looks into DAVID'S eyes and becomes lost in them.

CLARA

I missed you, David. So much.

DAVID looks into CLARA'S eyes then kisses her passionately. DAVID begins caressing CLARA'S body then places his hands under her clothing. CLARA grabs DAVID'S hand and tries to stop him. DAVID pulls away and is unhappy at CLARA trying to stop him from touching her.

DAVID

What?

CLARA (NERVOUS)

David. I don't... Isn't it too soon?

DAVID

Too soon?! I've been thinking about you for months! You have me in your house and now you are denying me? Come on, Clara. You know you want this as much as I do. Besides, I love you. You love me too, right?

CLARA sits silently. DAVID angrily gets up from the sofa.

DAVID

Are you fucking serious right now?! No answer?! I've told you HOW many times that I love you, and all you do is sit there?! I

came all the way back here for you, and THIS... THIS is how you
treat me?!

CLARA
No! David!

67

CLARA stands up and tries to reach for DAVID. DAVID pushes her
away, begins walking to the door, and turns to look back at
CLARA with disgust on his face.

DAVID
I don't have time for this shit. After all I've done for you,
all you can do is lie and lead me to believe you really loved
me.

CLARA
David. No. Please. Please don't go! That's not... David. Please?

CLARA steps over to DAVID and embraces him. DAVID stands stiff,
letting her hug him, but doesn't hug her back.

DAVID
Why not? I obviously care more for you than you do for me.

CLARA looks up to DAVID'S face with tears in her eyes.

CLARA
That's NOT true. I do love you.

DAVID
Then say it. And mean it.

DAVID'S last words repeat in CLARA'S head and his voice
transfers into a memory of CLARA'S FATHER as he is sexually
abusing her.

FLASHBACK SCENE:

ADOLECENT CLARA stands in her childhood home next to her shirtless FATHER who is sitting on the sofa, beer in hand as he caresses her hair.

68

CLARA'S FATHER

Say it, Clara. Tell me you love me. You have to tell Daddy and show Daddy that you love him. C'mon. Be a good girl now.

END FLASHBACK SCENE

CLARA comes back from her memory, shaking her head to try to remove her FATHER from her thoughts. CLARA is desperate to keep DAVID with her.

CLARA

David, I love you. I have been so miserable without you. Please don't leave me.

DAVID holds his tense pose, showing no emotion towards CLARA'S plea.

DAVID

I don't know, Clara. I'm afraid you might hurt me again.

CLARA

I never meant to hurt you, David. I'm so sorry. Please?

CLARA kisses DAVID'S lips and makes her way down his neck.

CLARA

Let me make it up to you.

DAVID still acts somewhat stand-offish, but doesn't stop CLARA as she continues kissing him. CLARA begins unbuttoning DAVID'S shirt. CLARA looks up at DAVID to see what his reaction is.

CLARA
Come with me.

CLARA grabs DAVID'S hand and lures him to her bedroom.

69

33. INT. CLARA'S BEDROOM - EVENING

CLARA sits on the edge of her bed and pulls DAVID down next to her as she lays back on the pillows and tries to lure him in with her eyes.

CLARA (WHISPERS)
Lay with me.

DAVID hesitates for a moment before lying next to CLARA. CLARA begins kissing DAVID and pulls him on top of her.

DAVID
Are you sure this is what you want?

CLARA
Yes.

DAVID
Say it.

CLARA
I want you, David.

DAVID places his hand on CLARA'S throat and kisses her passionately as he slightly chokes her then proceeds to place his hands under her clothing, groping her breasts then removing her shirt. They continue kissing and removing each other's clothing.

DAVID

Say you love me, Clara.

CLARA

I love you, David.

DAVID

Say you belong to me.

70

CLARA

I belong to you.

DAVID grabs CLARA'S throat and chokes her harder as he thrusts roughly inside her. CLARA cries in pain, gasping with widened eyes.

34. INT. CLARA'S APARTMENT-DAY

As the couple lay in bed together sleeping, we see the soft sunlight just starting to creep into the bedroom window, allowing a warm yellow hue to light the room. Suddenly, CLARA'S alarm sounds waking her. CLARA reaches for to shut it off then turns to see DAVID sleeping peacefully next to her. She smiles at him for a moment. In an attempt not to disturb and wake DAVID, CLARA slowly begins to get out of the bed when DAVID abruptly and roughly grabs her arm. CLARA is startled and turns quickly to DAVID, looking at his hand grabbing and squeezing her arm tightly.

DAVID

Where are you going?

CLARA

I have to get ready for work.

DAVID

You're not going to work.

CLARA

What? David, let go of me.

CLARA tries to pull away.

CLARA (CON'T)
You know I ha...

71

DAVID stands up quickly, rushing towards CLARA and grabbing her hard again and getting in her face.

DAVID
I SAID! You're NOT going to work!

DAVID throws CLARA onto the bed, slamming her hard into the mattress. CLARA lays trembling and still, full of fear as DAVID moves closer to her with his face full of obvious anger.

CLARA (TREMBLING VOICE)
David...

DAVID
Shut the fuck up! You better learn, and learn FAST! You're MINE!
You do what I say!

DAVID moves quickly towards CLARA and slaps her in the face. CLARA'S body collapses as she goes into fetal position, grabbing her face and sobbing.

FLASHBACK SCENE:

We see CLARA'S FATHER standing over her, panting, drunk and angry in his wife beater and filthy jeans as she, being a child, huddles in a corner, beaten and crying.

END FLASHBACK SCENE

CLARA attempts to sit up in bed, struggling to sit near the headboard as she holds her face where DAVID struck her. Blood

runs down her nose as his hand print is prominent across her cheek.

CLARA

David. Please. No...

72

DAVID

DON'T make me tell you again! Shut. Up.

CLARA remains still on the bed, silently crying as DAVID paces the room. DAVID'S emotions move from anger to nervousness as he seems to be calming down after pacing the room for a bit. Suddenly, DAVID stops for a moment with his back to CLARA. He thinks for a moment then turns to CLARA, then making his way towards her. DAVID sits on the bed close to CLARA as she cringes, and waits to be hit again. DAVID raises his hands to his face and rests his in his palms.

DAVID

Clara. I'm sorry, baby. I just can't lose you again. You can't ever leave me. Do you forgive me?

CLARA remains silent, unsure and afraid. DAVID moves his hands from his face, turning to her, and becoming angry once again.

DAVID

Clara.

CLARA (TREMBLING VOICE)

Yes. I forgive you, David. I know it was an accident.

DAVID stands to his feet again, back towards CLARA. He breathes in deep, raising his face to the ceiling as he does so. Suddenly. He turns towards CLARA once again, rushing her. He grabs her by the throat again, slamming her head into the headboard of the bed. CLARA tries to fight DAVID off of her, but

he is too strong. Her face is turning red as she is unable to gasp for air any longer. CLARA begins to slowly lose consciousness as DAVID proceeds to rape her. DAVID places his lips near CLARA'S ear as she cries.

DAVID

Tell me you like it.

73

DAVID thrusts himself hard into CLARA and tightens his grip on her throat. CLARA'S eyes become wide in pain and she struggles to breath.

DAVID

Fucking say it!

DAVID'S hand remains around CLARA'S throat as he rapes her.

CLARA (BARELY ABLE TO SPEAK)

Yes.

DAVID slaps CLARA in the face.

DAVID

Make me believe it, you bitch!

CLARA is crying.

CLARA

David, please.

DAVID becomes angrier as CLARA does not appease his demand and raises his hand again to strike her.

CLARA (SHREAKING)

DAVID! Noooo!!! Please! I love you! I love everything about you!

DAVID lowers his hand and his rage begins to calm. DAVID kisses CLARA'S lips as he finishes inside her. DAVID rolls off of CLARA and she balls up into fetal position as she cries.

DAVID uncaringly turns to CLARA who is shaking, crying and bleeding. DAVID is disgusted at the sight of her

DAVID

Get up and go clean yourself up. You look like shit. I don't want your fucking blood on me.

74

CLARA nods quickly at his demand and stands, wrapping the sheets around her exposed and beaten body. Blood is running down CLARA'S nose. She loses her balance for a moment and runs into a wall, catching herself against it. DAVID laughs as he is now standing, buttoning his pants.

DAVID (CON'T)

I'm going out. You keep your ass here, or I'll fucking kill you. No smart ideas now.

CLARA sheepishly stands looking at DAVID, holding her weight against the wall as she wipes the blood from her nose, not saying a word. DAVID pulls a shirt over his head then turns to leave the room. CLARA looks over to see her cell phone on the bedside table. DAVID notices her gaze and turns to see the cell phone also.

DAVID (CON'T)

You definitely won't be needing that, Sweetheart. Hand it over.

CLARA'S shoulders drop and her eyes cast to the floor as she feels defeated.

DAVID (CON'T)

Now!

CLARA is startled and hurriedly grabs her phone and passes it over to DAVID. DAVID angrily grabs the phone from her.

DAVID (CON'T)

Dumb bitch. Have your shit cleaned up before I get back. I'll be taking your keys too, so you don't have to worry about that either. I'll be back tonight.

DAVID walks towards CLARA and kisses her cheek. CLARA stands without moving until she hears the front door close.

75

CLARA slowly walks to the restroom, still trying to regain her balance. She examines her bloody face and bruised body in the mirror. CLARA grabs an old T-shirt and pair of shorts that are laying on the bathroom floor and puts them on quickly. CLARA runs to the front door and tries to open it, but it's been dead bolted from the outside. CLARA stands crying, leans against the door and slides down it to the floor, continuing to cry and feel defeated.

35. INT. CLARA'S BATHROOM-EARLY EVENING

CLARA stands in front of the mirror, showered, dressed up and fixing her hair and makeup. The bruises are still very apparent, but she does her best to cover them with makeup. CLARA tenses up as she hears the front door open and DAVID come in as he whistles a happy tune.

DAVID

Oooohhh, Honey?!

CLARA closes her eyes for a moment, trying to mentally prepare herself. She opens her eyes, looks at herself in the mirror and stands tall as she fake smiles to herself and becomes ready for whatever DAVID has in store. CLARA makes her way out of the bathroom and towards the living room.

36. INT. CLARA'S LIVING ROOM-EARLY EVENING

CLARA emerges in to the living room and forces a fake smile as she sees DAVID settling in to the house, removing his sunglasses, hanging his keys, etc.

CLARA

Hi, baby. Did you have a good time?

DAVID looks CLARA up and down, satisfied that she is cleaned up and dressed. DAVID smiles and has a very cocky attitude.

76

DAVID

Mmmm hmmm. What have you been up to?

CLARA

Just waiting for you, babe.

DAVID looks at CLARA suspiciously when her phone starts ringing in his pocket. DAVID pulls out CLARA'S phone and reads the caller ID.

DAVID

It's Kathy. You're going to answer and tell her that we are great and that you are busy. I don't want that nosey bitch coming over here. You got it?

CLARA nods quickly, understanding DAVID'S orders. DAVID slowly hands CLARA the phone. When CLARA tries to get the phone from him, DAVID tightens his grip on it. CLARA looks up to DAVID'S face.

DAVID (CON'T)

I mean it. Fuck this up and you're going to die.

CLARA and DAVID'S eyes lock as she nods in acknowledgement and understanding before DAVID finally releases the phone to CLARA.

CLARA (CALM TONE)

Hello?

KATHY (O.S.)

Hey, girl. Before you say anything, I just wanted to apologize about yesterday. You're right. I was being a total bitch.

CLARA (UPBEAT)

Oh, hey, girl. Yeah! I remember that one. I think we saw it at the mall on 28th. The red one, right?

77

KATHY

What? Hello?

CLARA (O.S)

Yes, Kathy. I'm sure it was there.

KATHY

Clara. Is everything okay?

CLARA (O.S.)

No.

KATHY

Clara?

CLARA (O.S)

Oh, I can't. David is here right now. He says to tell you hi. I'll talk to you later, okay? Good luck finding it!

KATHY

Clara!

CLARA

Okay. Bye, Kathy. Love you too.

CLARA hangs up the phone and hands it back to DAVID.

DAVID

What was that about?

CLARA

She wanted to know where we saw this purse she wanted to buy.

CLARA acts very nonchalant and DAVID'S demeanor begins to ease.

DAVID

Hmmm. Girl shit.

DAVID removes his watch and begins unbuttoning his shirt.

78

DAVID (CON'T)

I want to take a shower. Get it ready for me. Get my clothes ready too. I just want to eat dinner and relax. I've had a hard day.

CLARA nods and walks to DAVID, caressing his chest as she kisses him. CLARA looks into DAVID'S eyes before she walks to the bedroom to satisfy his orders.

37. INT. CLARA'S BEDROOM/BATHROOM-EARLY EVENING

We see CLARA moving about the bedroom, gathering DAVID'S clothing before moving into the bathroom. CLARA sets DAVID'S clothing on the counter and begins running the bath water. We see steam rising from the water, filling the restroom as CLARA turns and stares at the handle of a drawer. CLARA slowly walks towards it. CLARA looks over her shoulder and is sure that DAVID is not nearby before opening the drawer and exposing the bottled labeled: **TRIAZOLAM**. CLARA opens the bottle and dumps a bunch of pills into her hand then pockets them before walking back towards the living room.

38. INT. CLARA'S LIVING ROOM-EARLY EVENING

CLARA emerges into the living room to find DAVID sitting at the kitchen table on his laptop.

CLARA

Honey? Everything is ready for you.

DAVID looks up at CLARA, no expression, then immediately closes his laptop before standing up from the table.

DAVID
Get dinner started.

CLARA nods then casts her eyes to the floor. DAVID walks past CLARA then stops to look back at her.

79

DAVID
Clara? You know I love you, right?

CLARA turns and looks DAVID in the face.

CLARA
I love you too.

DAVID studies CLARA for a moment before turning away and disappearing into the bathroom. CLARA waits to hear the bathroom door close before she relaxes. CLARA covers her face with her hands, letting a deep breath out. Upon removing her hands from her face, she is startled to see DAVID standing right in front of her.

CLARA
David!

DAVID
Something the matter, Clara?

CLARA
No, no... Not at all. I was just... Just thinking about what to make you for dinner, honey.

DAVID suddenly pushes CLARA into the wall and traps her body between his and the wall.

DAVID
You're such a good girl, Clara. I'm never going to let you go.

DAVID caresses CLARA'S hair, moving it away from her face and behind her ear.

DAVID (CON'T)

I'll be out in a bit. Dinner better be ready.

DAVID kisses CLARA'S cheek then disappears again towards the bathroom.

80

39. INT. CLARA'S KITCHEN-EARLY EVENING

We see CLARA frantically moving about the kitchen, pulling out pots and pans, grabbing items from the pantry to make a quick spaghetti dinner. CLARA fills a pot with water and turns the heat to high, throwing the noodles in before the water even boils.

We see CLARA dump sauce into a small pot and turns the knob to medium heat. CLARA looks behind her, ensuring DAVID is not in the room before dumping the pills onto the counter from her pocket. CLARA, with shaking hands, grabs the pills and places them into a towel. CLARA frantically sifts through a drawer and retrieves a meat tenderizer and begins smashing the pills that are wrapped in the towel.

We see CLARA serving food and pours sauce on to a plate of noodles before dumping the crushed pills into the remaining sauce in the pot. CLARA stirs the powder until it disappears then pour it onto another plate of noodles.

We see CLARA serving the plates to the table and glances at DAVID'S computer. She opens it and clicks open the minimized tab. The tab pops up with a headline and photo of DAVID posing with a woman. The headline reads: **DAVID BRAURER UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR THE MURDER OF WIFE, LINDSAY BRAURER.**

CLARA hears DAVID whistling, headed her way and with wide eyes, quickly closes the laptop. DAVID emerges into the dining area

where CLARA is standing. DAVID pauses a moment as he sees CLARA standing near the computer. Nervously, CLARA pretends she was simply waiting for DAVID so she can pull his chair out for him.

CLARA

Dinner is ready, Sweetheart.

CLARA holds the chair out for him as he hesitates then finally comes over to sit down. CLARA kisses his cheek after DAVID sits down.

81

DAVID ignores CLARA'S kindness and begins to eat. We see CLARA slowly eating as she watches DAVID scarf down his food. After some time, DAVID begins to become woozy and dizzy. DAVID looks at his food, slowly blinking then looks to CLARA. DAVID tries to stand up and has a hard time holding his balance. DAVID stumbles in CLARA'S direction. CLARA is nervous and wide eyed.

DAVID (SLURS WORDS)

What the fuck did you do to me, bitch?!

DAVID falls to the floor and is unconscious. CLARA searches DAVID'S pockets and tries finds a cell phone.

CLARA

Oh, God! Where is it?! Where's the fucking phone?!

Suddenly there is a loud pounding at the front door.

KATHY (O.S.)

CLARA!! Open the door! Clara!

CLARA rushes to open the door and finds she can't as the door is padlocked.

CLARA

Kathy! I can't open it! He locked me in!

KATHY (O.S.)

Smash the window out, Clara!

CLARA obeys KATHY'S direction and grabs a chair. CLARA prepares to throw it through the window.

CLARA
Stand back, Kathy!

CLARA throws the chair through the window, smashing the glass out and allowing KATHY to crawl in.

82

KATHY is stunned by CLARA'S beaten appearance.

KATHY
Oh my God... Clara... David did this to you?

CLARA nods and is crying. KATHY rushes to hug her. KATHY and CLARA embrace for a moment when KATHY notices DAVID'S body lying on the ground. KATHY backs away from CLARA and covers her mouth.

KATHY
Oh, God!! Is he... dead?

CLARA
No. I drugged him with Triazolam.

KATHY
Clara... What the fuck is happening?!

CLARA
Kathy! He is David Brauer. He murdered his wife, Lindsay. He's going to kill me too, Kathy. And if he knows that you know, he'll kill you too. Kathy. Please help me.

KATHY (Frantic)
What the fuck? Help you? Murder him?

CLARA

When he wakes up, he's going to murder me, Kathy. There's no stopping him. Please. If you're not going to help me, leave now. He can't know you're here.

CLARA turns away from KATHY. KATHY stands silently looking at CLARA then looks at DAVID'S body.

KATHY

You grab his arms. I'll get his legs. We're gonna drag his ass to the bathtub.

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CLARA turns to KATHY with tears in her eyes and rushes at KATHY to hug her tightly.

40. INT. CLARA'S BATHROOM-EVENING

We see KATHY and CLARA throwing the last of DAVID'S body into the bathroom. They sit at the edge of the tub, catching their breaths.

KATHY

Fuck! He's one heavy son of a bitch.

CLARA

What are we going to do now?

KATHY

I don't know. Drown him... Cut his throat... Can we make this look like a suicide?

CLARA

I don't fucking know, Kathy! Fuck!

KATHY

Hey! You dragged me into this shit, okay?! I'm trying to keep him from busting up your fucking face again and from killing the both of us!

We see DAVID who is lying motionless in the tub suddenly open his eyes then close them again.

KATHY and CLARA are preoccupied and do not see this.

CLARA

Okay! I know. I know. You're right. We'll stage a suicide. I'll get a knife.

CLARA leaves KATHY in the bathroom as she heads to the kitchen to retrieve a knife.

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41. INT. CLARA'S KITCHEN-EVENING

We see CLARA enter the kitchen and open a drawer. She retrieves a knife and stands with her head hung for a moment, taking in the situation they are in. CLARA takes a deep breath and tightens her grip on the knife as she musters up the courage to kill DAVID. CLARA makes her way back towards the bathroom.

42. INT. CLARA'S BATHROOM-EVENING

We see CLARA enter the bathroom to find KATHY'S body, motionless, on the floor. CLARA looks to the bathtub and finds DAVID'S body now missing.

CLARA

KATHY!

CLARA drops the knife and backs away, crying. She stops at the doorway when suddenly DAVID appears behind her. CLARA doesn't know he is there. DAVID grabs CLARA and throws her to the floor. CLARA is caught off guard and tries to fight, but DAVID is stronger. DAVID forces her to the ground and mounts her then begins choking her.

DAVID

You fucking bitch! You thought you were smarter than me?! I'm going to fucking kill you!

CLARA continues punching at DAVID, but she quickly begins losing strength and consciousness. KATHY suddenly appears behind DAVID with the knife that CLARA previously brought in and dropped in the bathroom. KATHY stabs DAVID in the back repeatedly. DAVID is stunned and falls to the floor, off of CLARA. He lies face down, motionless as blood pours from his body. CLARA quickly rises to her feet and hugs KATHY as they are both exhausted and trying to catch their breaths. The two women begin to hobble their way towards the front door when we see DAVID rise to his feet. With evil in his face, he grabs KATHY by the back of the hair and slits her throat. DAVID throws KATHY'S body to the floor.

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CLARA screams bloody murder as KATHY falls to the floor. DAVID looks to CLARA with a crazed look on his face. He slowly begins walking towards CLARA with knife in hand. CLARA backs away, crying.

CLARA

David... Please...

DAVID smirks as he approaches closer and closer.

DAVID

I told you NOT to fuck with me, Clara, but oh no... You JUST couldn't listen, could you?!

43. INT. CLARA'S LIVING ROOM-EVENING

CLARA continues to back away from DAVID until she is trapped in the living room. DAVID forces CLARA against the wall and begins caressing her face with his bloody hand.

DAVID

We could have been great together, Clara. Reeeeaally great. But, you had to go and fuck everything up and disobey me. On top

of it all, you go and get that NOSEY ass bitch involved in OUR
fucking relationship!

DAVID punches the wall near CLARA'S head and CLARA flinches.

DAVID (CON'T)

I told you to be good, Clara. You didn't listen, just like
Lindsay didn't listen. Now you're going to end up just like her.

CLARA

Noooo!!!!

We see police officers break through the front door with a
battering ram. DAVID'S attention is turned towards the
commotion.

POLICE OFFICER

Freeze!

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DAVID angrily turns towards CLARA and raises the knife. Just
before he slams his hand down to kill CLARA, we hear a gun shot
fired. DAVID is stunned and his eyes become glossed over as his
body falls on CLARA, sliding down it. DAVID is dead before he
hits the floor.

44. INT. DR. MILLER'S OFFICE-DAY

We see CLARA, sitting in DR. MILLER'S office, tissues in hand,
staring off into the distance.

DR. MILLER

Clara?

CLARA continue to stare into the distance.

DR. MILLER

Clara?

CLARA looks up and is surprised.

CLARA
Huh?

DR. MILLER
Clara? Where were you just now?

CLARA
What? Nowhere.

DR. MILLER
What were you thinking about, Clara?

CLARA shifts around in her seat, uncomfortable and avoiding answering the question.

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DR. MILLER
Clara, what were you thinking? There's no judgement here. I think you know that by now.

CLARA looks at DR. MILLER.

CLARA
I... I don't know. I just. I can't believe Kathy is gone.

DR. MILLER
I know this is a hard process for you, Clara. But I promise. Time heals everything.

CLARA stares at DR. MILLER, sits back and looks into the distance, shaking her head.

45. INT. CLARA'S BATHROOM-DAY

We see CLARA sitting on the floor with photos of CLARA and KATHY sprawled out. CLARA is drunk and crying. We see a liquor bottle half gone near her. CLARA is clutching a photo in her hand and drops her head between her knees for a moment and continues to sob.

CLARA

I'm so sorry, Kathy... I'm so sorry.

CLARA sloppily picks herself up off the ground with photo in hand. CLARA plugs the tub drain and runs the water full blast before setting the photo on the counter as she fumbles for pills that are spilled out onto the counter from a prescription bottle. CLARA chugs down a handful of pills and washes them down with the liquor. CLARA grabs the photo she set down on the counter and stumbles across the bathroom to the tub that is quickly filling with water.

We see CLARA, fully clothed, step into the bathtub. She slips down into the water and closes her eyes as the water rises above her. The photo was holding slips from her hand and floats above

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the water. We see it is the last photo KATHY and CLARA took together the night CLARA met DAVID.

THE END