BROKEN PEOPLE

Original Spec Screenplay

Written by

John Scimeca

BLACK

FADE IN

EXT./INT. - MANHATTAN CITY STREET - 8:40 PM.

RICHARD GREENBERG, (28), 5 foot 9, thin, walks west.

Two Thugs force him into a SUV. DWAYNE, 45, his Bookie is waiting.

DWAYNE

Hidin' from me, Richie? Told ya to stop gambling. Told ya.

RICHARD

You'll get the money.

DWAYNE

You fucken owe 39 thousand dollars!

RICHARD

I'll get it.

DWAYNE

When?

RICHARD

A week.

DWAYNE

Then it's 45 thousand. Understand? I like you Richie boy, but I'll hurt you if you don't come through.

RICHARD

I know, you'll break my legs.

DWAYNE

I'll break your neck for 40 Grand!

RICHARD

You'll get the money.

BOOM - RICHARD is PUNCHED in the face by THUG on his right. His eye swells.

RICHARD

(Holds eye)

What's that for? Said I'd get it.

DWAYNE

That's for making me find you. 7 days.

He's Shoved back onto the street.

RICHARD

(to self)

Gotta ask William for a loan. He's rich.

EXT.- UPPER WESTSIDE - SAME

A limousine arrives at a luxury building. GEORGE, the driver opens the passenger door. A well-dressed couple emerges. WILLIAM GAINZ, 36, wealthy businessman, 6 foot, limp - LUCY WANG, 29, Second generation American, working at the U.N..

WILLIAM

Thank you, George.

GEORGE

Have a good evening, Mister Gainz, Miss.

INT. LOBBY - CONT.D

VIDEO FROM SECURITY CAMERA - The couple pass the doorman on their walk to the elevator.

INT. HALLWAY - CONT.D

William swipes his phone; Condo's door opens.

INT. - WILLIAM'S APARTMENT -9:06 PM

Enter a cavernous living room revealing a modified duplex. Stark white walls nearly twenty feet high. Black granite floors lead to tall windows and an oversized balcony. A Lucite staircase leads to the guest rooms upstairs. CLAUDIA, 58, housekeeper wheels a laundry cart down the hall.

WILLIAM

Hi, Claudia.

CLAUDIA

Mesta William. Miss.

LUCY

It's nice to see you.

INT. DEN - CONT.D

Dark paneling, smoky. William walks to the bar, pours a drink. Lucy sinks into the large brown leather sofa. A large aquarium bubbles in the background.

WILLIAM

Sure you don't want one?

LUCY

Taking antibiotics. Don't work if I drink. How about sparkling water?

WILLIAM

(Joking)

You have anything worth catching?

Opens a Pellegrino.

LUCY

Let's find out.

She walks closer, grinding her body sexily into his. They kiss. She grips his shoulders, her leg wrapping around his. He gropes her.

DOORBELL RINGS

LUCY

Perfect timing!

WILLIAM

It's my assistant, Richard. Sorry, forgot he's coming.

She adjusts her clothes.

LUCY

(Smile)

You're gonna pay for this.

WILLIAM

It'll only be a few minutes.

LUCY

You wouldn't answer the door if you knew what I planned!

WILLIAM

Hold that thought.

Richard, is shown in by Claudia.

RICHARD

Good evening, How was dinner?

LUCY

Dinner was nice, thank you.

RICHARD

Nice. I just have a few things for William to sign.

WILLIAM

(Seeing his black eye)

What happened? You okay? You look like you need a drink.

LUCY

I think Richard wants to rush home after a bad day, that true, Richard?

Lays her hand on Richard's arm for emphasis.

RICHARD

(discomfort)

It's nothing, tripped and fell. I really can't stay, I haven't eaten yet.

William stands, holding a bottle in one hand, a glass in the other.

WILLIAM

I guess that leaves all this for me.

He empties it in one gulp.

LUCY

Don't get too drunk, honey.

WILLIAM

I never get that drunk.

William, I have contracts to sign. And, I need to speak with you alone, please.

WILLIAM

Let's talk tomorrow. Give me the contracts.

William signs the documents.

RICHARD

It would only take a minute.

WILLIAM

Where are the Vietnam contracts?

RICHARD

I thought you only needed the European ones. I still need to finish them.

WILLIAM

Damn! I NEED them TONIGHT!

He pours another Whisky, chugs it down. Coughs.

RICHARD

I'll work on them when I get home.

WILLIAM

Don't fuck this up, Richard.

LUCY

Good thing you live nearby.

Richard apologetically rushes out.

LUCY

I wouldn't trust him.

WILLIAM

I don't.

INT. RICHARD'S APARTMENT - SHORTLY

Richard, eating left over pizza, working on the Vietnamese contracts...

RICHARD

(upset)

I gotta get money.

He finishes the contracts at 10:00, leaves for William's.

INT. - WILLIAM'S APARTMENT- 9:47PM

LUCY

Come to bed, Lover.

Lucy leads William into the bedroom.

INT. WILLIAM'S BEDROOM - 10:01PM

The room is black and mirrored. Lucy undresses, slowly, seductively. William fumbles with his clothes.

Their SEX is Desperate - Angry - Rough.

LUCY

(Panting)

Choke me.

WILLIAM

It's Hot!

LUCY

Fuck ME!...

Wild, erratic. William - drunk - knocks a lamp and Lucy's glass from the nightstand. The glass shatters.

LUCY (cont.)

Choke me! Do it!!

William, nearing orgasm, pulse racing, wild with desire - SQUEEZES HARD...

The excitement in her face turns to fear ...

She Claws at his hands, goes limp. Her eyes rolling back...

William notices, releases his grip ...

Lucy FALLS BACK - HITS her head on the Nightstand with a BANG...

She lay still, half hanging off the bed.

WILLIAM

(shouting)

My God! Claudia! Claudia!

INT. WILLIAM'S BEDROOM -10:32PM

Claudia enters with Richard.

WILLIAM

Help her, It's an accident!

Claudia starts CPR. No use. Lucy is dead.

William puts on a robe. Vomits into his wastebasket.

Claudia holds Lucy's body, in shock.

Richard picks up Lucy, lays her on the bed. Folds her arms, closes her eyes.

RICHARD

Richard takes Claudia to a guestroom.

INT. - GUESTROOM - 11:04PM

Richard holds Claudia who is shaking. She calms.

RICHARD

You need to use the bathroom?

Shakes her head, no.

RICHARD

There's one through the door. Stay here.

CLAUDIA

(shaking)

Mister William, he say it was accident!

RICHARD

I'm sure it was. Stay here while I speak to him, okay?

CLAUDIA

(sobbing)

Okay, Mister Richard.

RICHARD

I'll be back, relax.

He closes the door.

INT. - WILLIAM'S BEDROOM - 11:14PM

Richard returns.

RICHARD

Did you two have a fight?

WILLIAM

We were making love, she hit her head.

This is not good.

WILLIAM

Oh, My God. Richard, it was an accident. Holy shit! I can't have this happening!

Richard pours 2 Scotches, hands one to William.

RICHARD

I am here now. What happened to her neck?

WILLIAM

We were having sex, I choked her.

RICHARD

Why?

WILLIAM

She read it in a book.

RICHARD

A book? What did Claudia see?

WILLIAM

She arrived with you.

RICHARD

Did you call anyone?

WILLIAM

No.

RICHARD

You spoke to no one?

WILLIAM

No, only you and Claudia.

Any security cameras in your apartment?

WILLIAM

No, there are cameras in the lobby.

RICHARD

I think you need to make this look like a suicide.

WILLIAM

You crazy? Look at her. Look at her neck. I'm fucked!

RICHARD

Suicide can mask her injuries.

WILLIAM

How, hang her?

RICHARD

No, we can have her fall or jump from the balcony.

WILLIAM

Why would she do that?

RICHARD

You don't know why. Everything was great. I was here when it happened. She stands on the chair and falls over the railing. It happened fast. Nothing we could do.

WILLIAM

It really was an accident!

You can't say you choked her. That's manslaughter. You'll go broke paying for attorneys. She has to fall.

WILLIAM

You insame? You want to throw Lucy's naked body from the balcony?

RICHARD

We dress her first. Remember, I was here. We were having drinks. She goes to the bathroom, comes out and falls.

WILLIAM

The police can tell when she died.

RICHARD

It won't get that far. People die all the time. You have a credible witness in me.

WILLIAM

What 'bout Claudia?

RICHARD

I'll handle her.

WILLIAM

How?

RICHARD

I'll take care of Claudia.

WILLIAM

I can't do this!

RICHARD

Your call. I don't think you have a choice.

WILLIAM

I can't believe this is happening.

RICHARD

William, you're running out of time. You have to decide.

WILLIAM

We were on the terrace. Everything was fine. Lucy comes back and falls, right?

RICHARD

Yeah, that's the story. Agree?

WILLIAM

I agree. Thanks. Owe you one.

RICHARD

You do.

William struggles to dress Lucy.

Richard picks up the broken glass. He cuts three of his fingers - starts bleeding.

RICHARD (cont.)

Ouch, fuck.

WILLIAM

Band-aids in the medicine cabinet.

Richards gets three.

INT - GUEST BEDROOM - 11:57PM

Richard returns. Claudia is on the bed.

RICHARD

You okay?

CLAUDIA

Yes, Mista Richard.

Shaky. Eyes red, puffy.

RICHARD

Claudia, Miss Lucy is dead.

Claudia nods her head in agreement.

RICHARD

The police will want to speak with everyone.

CLAUDIA

Mista Richard, please, I know nothin. I'm afraid.

RICHARD

You afraid of the police?

CLAUDIA

Please, Mista Richard. No, no police.

RICHARD

Okay, I'll take care of the police.

CLAUDIA

Thank you, Mista Richard.

RICHARD

You were not here tonight. You must not tell anyone. You understand?

CLAUDIA

Yes, I know nothing.

RICHARD

You were NOT HERE tonight, Understand?

CLAUDIA

Yes, I was no here.

He hands her two hundred and twenty dollars from his wallet and his card.

RICHARD

Take a cab home. Stay home a few days and rest. You need anything, call me.

CLAUDIA

Thank you.

Claudia goes to the bathroom, washes up, and leaves quietly as Richard stands by.

INT.- WILLIAMS BEDROOM - 00:17 AM

William sits along with Lucy.

WILLIAM

(Wiping away tears)

I'm sorry.

Richard returns, grabs Lucy by an arm.

RICHARD

Get the other arm.

They carry/drag Lucy onto the terrace.

EXT. TERRACE - 00:21 AM

RICHARD

Stand her on the chair - Okay, got it - On three let her fall - Wait, the railing is high - okay - You ready? -William! - You ready? - Okay - One - Two - Three...

She falls from view. Neither man looks down.

INT. - WILLIAMS APARTMENT - 00:30

RICHARD

Call your lawyer first, then the police. We were having drinks. Lucy stands on the chair and falls. She said nothing.

WILLIAM

(On phone)

Hello, Josh. It's William Gainz. Sorry to bother you so… No, It's bad news. My girlfriend fell from my balcony. I wanted to call you first. Okay, I will call now. -OKAY -- See you soon. Thank you.

Richard calls down to the doorman.

RICHARD (On phone)

Hello, who's this? Angelo. Listen, Angelo. This is Mr. Gainz' assistant. There was an accident. That's his girlfriend who fell. The police are coming, please secure everything until they arrive.

WILLIAM (On phone)

Hello, I'm William Gainz, 417 West 81st. My fiancé fell from the terrace. Yes, 417 west 81st. 802. Yes, this is my number. Yes, send a car.

RICHARD

Stay focused. You are in shock, it is expected. Speak slowly, think before you speak.

WILLIAM

What if they separate us?

RICHARD

Just remember the story.

WILLIAM

I'm sorry for getting you involved.

RICHARD

I'm here for you.

EXT/INT.- WILLIAM'S APARTMENT -00:44 AM

William's Attorney, JOSH 'PEEPS 'O'NEIL arrives.

WILLIAM

Thanks for coming, Josh. This is my assistant, Richard. He was here when it happened.

Two POLICEMEN are in the street, securing the perimeter around Lucy's body. Another policeman is stationed outside William's apartment.

Homicide Detective, MARC DAVIS, 45, arrives. Tall, well dressed, perfect hair.

MARC

I am Detective Davis. Which one of you is Mister Gainz?

JOSH

This is William Gainz. I am Josh O'Neil, a friend, and his attorney.

Presents Business Card

JOSH (cont.)

This is Richard Greenberg, William's assistant.

MARC

What is your involvement, Counselor?

JOSH

I live nearby. Rushed over when I heard. MARC You don't mind if I ask some questions? JOSH Let's keep it civil. He's had a rough time. MARC Just trying to understand what happened. JOSH William's fiancé fell from the balcony. MARC I was asking him. WILLIAM Officer, I'm a bit shaky right now. MARC It's Detective if you don't mind. WILLIAM Sorry, I meant no disrespect. WILLIAM SITS MARC Can you start at the beginning? WILLIAM Lucy fell from the terrace.

Marc walks onto the terrace. Its railing is chest high on his 6 ft frame.

MARC

She fell over this?

WILLIAM

She climbed on a chair.

MARC

Do you know why?

WILLIAM

No, I ran over, so did Richard. It was too late. She fell over.

MARC

You were here when it happened, Mister Greenberg?

RICHARD

Yes, I was.

MARC

What happened to you eye?

RICHARD

I fell.

MARC

Happening a lot lately. She say anything?

RICHARD

I don't know.

MARC

You were here, right? Did she say anything?

RICHARD

No, I don't think so.

MARC TAKES NOTES

MARC

When did this occur?

Richard glances at his watch

RICHARD

Around Midnight.

MARC

Was she upset about anything?

WILLIAM

I don't think so. We were talking. Lucy went to the bathroom. She returns, gets on the chair and falls! I tried to get to her. I swear.

Places head in hands.

MARC

Where were you were sitting ...?

EXT. - BALCONY - 00:53 AM

Richard walks onto the terrace with Marc.

MARC

Can you come too, Mister Gainz?

WILLIAM

Please, I'd rather not.

William sits with his head in his hands. Josh walks out on balcony, his arms crossed.

MARC

So be it. Where were you sitting Mister Greenberg?

RICHARD

It's Richard. I was in that corner.

MARC

Can you sit there? What happened to your hand? Cut yourself?

Richard moves.

RICHARD

Yes, on a glass.

MARC

Where was Mister Gainz?

RICHARD

When I cut myself?

MARC

Just before she climbed on the chair.

RICHARD

He was sitting there.

Marc stands next to two deck chairs.

MARC

What was she doing before she went inside?

RICHARD

We were talking. Everything was fine. She goes inside. A few minutes later she jumps.

MARC

Jumps or falls? Which is it? Was anyone else in the apartment?

RICHARD

I don't know. No, no one.

Marc scribbles in his notepad.

INT. WILLIAM'S APARTMENT - 01:01 AM

Marc enters the kitchen, opens the fridge.

JOSH

Can we offer you anything, Detective, a drink perhaps?

He looks at the spotless counter and empty sink.

MARC

No, thank you. May I use your men's-room?

WILLIAM

Yes, just down the hall.

INT. APARTMENT - CONT.D

He takes a pee, washes his hands.

Marc glances into the bedroom. The bed is unmade. The lamp is broken. The glass shards on the floor sparkle. A broken, blood covered glass is in the trash. Blood droplets scattered about.

Marc returns.

MARC

Do you have a photograph of your girlfriend, Mister Gainz?

WILLIAM

Yes, here, in my phone.

Marc looks at Lucy's photograph.

MARC

My condolences, she was lovely.

WILLIAM

Thank you.

MARC

Richard, how well do you know Miss Wang?

RICHARD

I've only met her 2 or 3 times.

MARC

In the bedroom?

RICHARD

What's in the bedroom?

MARC

Did you cut yourself in the bedroom?

RICHARD

Yes, William was signing documents and broke a glass.

MARC

You met her 2 or 3 times, correct?

RICHARD

(annoyed)

Yeah, that's correct.

MARC

Approximately, what time did it happen?

RICHARD

What time did what happen?

MARC

When did you cut yourself?

RICHARD

(short)

I don't know, why does it matter? I am sorry, tonight's been stressful.

MARC

I understand. Did the glass break before or after Lucy's death?

RICHARD

Before.

MARC

Mister Gainz, how well did you know her?

WILLIAM

I was falling in love with her.

MARC

Any reason why she'd commit suicide?

WILLIAM

I never would've imagined it.

MARC

Mister Gainz, did you see where she fell?

WILLIAM

No. I couldn't look.

MARC

What if she was alive, at the hospital? RICHARD JUMPS UP.

RICHARD

That's impossible.

MARC

Why, Richard? How can you be so sure?

Richard catches himself, sits.

RICHARD

It is a high fall.

William jumps up.

WILLIAM

She's still alive? Oh God! Richard! God ...

MARC

Miss Wang didn't survive and can't finish her story.

JOSH

Careful detective, let's not make this more than what it is.

MARC

No Death is simple. You didn't happen to get physical with her by any chance?

JOSH

You don't have to answer that, William. This has gone too far. Officer, there will be no further questions.

WILLIAM

No, it's okay Josh. I'll answer. I would never strike a woman.

MARC

Did you and Richard have an argument, a fistfight?

JOSH

I said no further questions.

WILLIAM

Josh, sit down. I have this.

JOSH

Bill, as your attorney, I strongly ...

WILLIAM

No, Richard is a trusted employee.

MARC

Can I take the drinking glasses for testing? Maybe there was something in her drink.

JOSH

Go ahead. Take them.

Marc nods, an officer bags the glasses.

MARC

I will need your cell phone and personal computer also.

Josh stands.

JOSH

That is impossible. Mr. Gainz has been nominated to head a Presidential committee and has sensitive files. You can't get his phone or computer under any circumstances.

MARC

I can get a court order.

JOSH

Go right ahead. Call the Justice Department. You are not getting them. This interrogation is over. I thought you'd be more civil. Officer, if you are going to charge my client, please do so, if not, I ask you to leave. It's been a terrible night and we need some rest.

MARC Don't get pushy with me counselor. I can take them in for questioning. You know it.

Mister Greenberg, I need your phone as well...

JOSH

Enough. Can I have a moment with you alone?

Josh and Marc walk out onto the terrace. The sounds of the city drown out their conversation. The Lawyer is angry. They return inside.

MARC

I am writing this down as suspected suicide. I have your statements; we may have other questions. Speak soon, Counselor.

Marc turns to William:

MARC

I'm sorry for your loss. Good evening.

He leaves.

JOSH

I wouldn't worry about this.

RICHARD

I said everything will be alright.

WILLIAM

Whew, that was rough.

JOSH

Is there anything I need to know?

RICHARD

It happened exactly as we said.

WILLIAM

(Looking away)

That's true.

Josh speaks to William and leaves.

RICHARD

I am sorry, but I need to speak with you.

WILLIAM

What's it about?

RICHARD

I need to borrow 50 thousand dollars.

WILLIAM

Can I ask what for?

RICHARD

Bad investments.

WILLIAM

This puts me in a very uncomfortable situation. I never lend money.

RICHARD

I just lied for you.

WILLIAM

I didn't ask you to lie.

RICHARD

You owe me.

William

Okay, you're right. I'll lend you the money. Pay me back weekly. Does that work?

RICHARD

Yeah, that work. Thanks.

EXT. - TENAMENT ROOFTOP- 00:07AM

A fire damaged, six story building sits opposite William's building. On its roof, drug addicts; LESTER, 30, Black, overweight. PHILLY, 28, half White and Philippine, smoking - Crack Cocaine. just thirty-three feet from William's balcony. It is dark. Only light is the crack pipe being lit.

William's balcony is well lit from inside.

EXT. SAME ROOFTOP - 00:17 AM

Philly is playing with his phone, filming the NYC skyline. He spots movement on William's terrace. Two men struggling to move something.

PHILLY

(Excited- pointing)

Yo, Lester, Check it out!

Lester watches as Philly films - The men perching Lucy's body on the chair, letting her fall. He films as she falls out of sight.

LESTER

Shit! See that?

PHILLY

Yeah, got it. Wanna see?

He plays the video.

LESTER

Is that a body?

PHILLY

Sure as shit looked like one. LESTER Fuck, Man, those guys threw a girl from the balcony. Oh, my God. How fucked is that? PHILLY Let's see if it's on TV tomorrow. LESTER Then, what? PHILLY I don't know. We'll see. LESTER Fuck it - light another bowl ... PHILLY Sure, here, take a hit. Lester takes a drag, holds it, exhales. LESTER Shit, Man, what a night. PHILLY Right there. INT. WILLIAM'S APARTMENT - 8:15 AM William is awakened by his phone. His head is pounding. JOSH (O.S.)

Morning, Bill. I need to speak with you about last night.

WILLIAM

Can it wait till later?

JOSH (O.S.)

I don't think it should.

WILLIAM

Sure, come now if you want.

JOSH (O.S.)

See you in 20. Want coffee?

WILLIAM

Yeah, strong please.

INT. WILLIAMS APARTMENT - LATER

JOSH

Wanna fill me in on what happened last night?

WILLIAM

What do you mean?

JOSH

Your bedroom stunk of blood, alcohol, and vomit. The lamp was broken. You have a fight?

WILLIAM

No, I was drunk.

JOSH

Clearly. What's Richard's story?

WILLIAM

He's the son of business associate.

JOSH

When did you start socializing with the help? WILLIAM He came to get contracts signed. JOSH Do me a favor. WILLIAM Yes, of course. JOSH Cut back on the drinking for a while. WILLIAM I know, yeah, I promise. JOSH Take care of yourself. I have your back. INT. - DRY CLEANING STORE - 10:15 AM JULY WANG, 56, owner, answers the phone. JULY Hello, Empire Laundry. P.O. TAYLOR (O.S.) Is this Mrs. Wang? JULY Yes, can I help you? P.O. TAYLOR (O.S.)

Mrs. Wang, I am Police Officer TAYLOR, NYPD. Your daughter, Lucy, was in an accident last night. JULY Lucy! What happened ... ?! She okay?!! P.O. TAYLOR (O.S.) I am not sure, Mam. JULY Please, what happened?! P.O. TAYLOR Mrs. Wang, are you available to speak with a detective later today? JULY Yes, please. P.O. TAYLOR (O.S.) 367 W 37th street? 1st floor? We'll send a car. How about in an hour? JULY No, that is my store. P.O. TAYLOR (O.S.) Mam, where should he pick you up? JULY That's fine. Use that address. P.O. TAYLOR (O.S.) One hour then. JULY Wait, I need to know what happened.

P.O. TAYLOR (O.S.)

I'm sorry; I don't know anything.

Call ends.

EXT./INT. - JULY'S STORE -11:20 AM

July stands outside. Detective Marc Davis arrives, introduces himself. She gets into the car, he drives.

INT.EXT. - CAR - CONT.D

JULY

Where's Lucy? She okay? Where we going?

He stops the car. Turns.

MARC

Mrs. Wang, your daughter Lucy committed suicide last night.

JULY

Suicide! NO, not possible! Oh, My God. Please, it's not true.

MARC

I am sorry for your loss.

JULY

Where are you taking me?

MARC

To identify her.

JULY

(Shaking)

I can't.

Marc holds her hands.

MARC

Is there someone who can?"

July takes a few deep breaths, wipes her eyes.

JULY

No, I need to see her. Let's go.

INT. NYC MORGUE - CONT.D

They are Buzzed in by security. Marc leads. She shudders, it is cold.

An attendant wheels out the gurney carrying Lucy's body. Normally, the deceased are naked, but they are understaffed. July identifies Lucy's body. She notices that her daughter's dress is on inside out.

JULY

Lucy would not leave the house like that.

Mark jots it down.

July caresses Lucy's face. Mark gently stops her. He escorts her from the building.

EXT./INT. - MARC'S CAR - CONT.D

Marc turns, offers his condolences.

She grabs his hand.

JULY

My daughter wouldn't commit suicide. Please, promise you'll find out what happened.

EXT. DRY CLEANERS - LATER

They arrive back at her store. July is amazed how fast it all happened.

MARC

I promise, I'll do my best. Let me walk you inside.

JULY

No, I'll be fine. I need to walk.

She walks away without saying a word. Her head stooped in despair.

INT - LUCY'S BEDROOM - LATER

July sits on her daughter's bed, tears rolling down her cheeks. In shock. Nervously, she begins to tidy up. Moves a small plastic case. It opens in her hand. Lucy's birth control pills. Yesterday's pill is missing.

JULY

She took it? It's not suicide. She wanted to live, she had so much to live for...

INT. - SCARDALE, NEW YORK - 5:49 PM

Marc is at the ball field with his wife, JANET, 32, watching their daughter, LINDSEY, 10, play softball.

He cellular rings.

Janet gives him a stare. He shrugs, answers.

MARC

Homicide. Davis here.

JULY (O.S.)

This is July Wang. Do you have a moment?

MARC

Yes, of course, Mrs. Wang. How can I help?

JULY (O.S.)

Lucy took her birth control pill.

MARC I'm sorry, Mrs. Wang, I don't understand. JULY (O.S.) A person planning suicide wouldn't take pill. What the reason? MARC Yes, I see. Thank you, I'll note it in the report. You are very helpful. JULY (O.S.) She was Murdered, Detective. My daughter was murdered. MARC I will check every detail of your daughter's case. JULY (O.S.) Thank you. Thank you for listening. MARC Take care of yourself, Mrs. Wang. JULY (O.S.) You too. INT - EXAMINATION ROOM - NYC MORGUE - 6:45 PM The Orderly wheels Lucy's body into the exam room. Brightly lit, white tiles floor to ceiling. There are three examination tables. MARIE, 24, a blue haired intern, drags over a video camera. She removes a laptop from a bag. She connects them.

CHRISTINE

What's all that for?

MARIE

To document the autopsy. Don't you do that?

CHRISTINE

Don't have the time usually. You aren't thinking of posting this online?

MARIE

I need the video for my thesis.

CHRISTINE

Sure, go ahead. Film it. I'm not lying there naked, what do I care?

Christine takes a few digital photos of Lucy. She then begins to remove her clothing.

MARIE

Her dress is on inside out.

CHRISTINE

How can you tell, there is no tag?

MARIE

Look at the seams.

CHRISTINE

You are right. Make sure to get that.

MARIE

She's a mess!

CHRISTINE

Fell eight stories.

MARIE

At least her face isn't messed up...

CHRISTINE

See this? Bruises on her neck.

Marie photographs Lucy's neck.

CHRISTINE

This one is heavily discolored. Her other bruises are not. These bruises occurred before the fall. Was she dead when she fell?

MARIE

Couldn't it have been caused from the fall?

CHRISTINE

Hard to say. We are here to find out what killed her, not who or why. We leave that for the police. Wait, stop. Move the light back a little. What's that?

MARIE

Looks like glass fragments. Inside her underwear? Weird. Where did they come from?

CHRISTINE

It appears that she has semen in her vagina. Collect a sample, okay?

MARIE

That is gross.

CHRISTINE

Better get used to body fluids.

EXT. - NYC CRIMINAL COURTS BUILDING - 10:35 AM GINA CROSS, 41, reporter, stands in the rain. On her phone, shouting at MATT, her ex. Matt, listen to me. It is over between us. Don't you get it? I met your girlfriend. Said you're hooking up. No, fuck you, I don't want to hear your excuses. It's over. You can pick up your stuff from Joe, the super. And, I changed my lock, so I won't need the key...

He attempts to speak; she is not having it.

GINA

Matt, I'm telling you, it's over. Don't you understand? Over! Stay out of my life. Move on. Matt, didn't you fucking hear me? It's over.

Gina clicks OFF, rushes to a crowd of reporters - camera men clustered at the bottom of the stairs. Gina squeezes in next to JIMMY. 30, her camera man. Heavy Rain. She wears a gray rain jacket and fedora hat. Wet hair, makeup starting to run. The crowd pushes. Gina pushes back, holds her ground.

GINA

I'm fucking angry, cold, wet and tired!

JIMMY

Trouble in paradise?

GINA

Men suck.

JIMMY

Yeah, aint that the truth?

A group emerge from the court, descend the stairs towards the news crews. Gina reaches the group first, microphone in hand, Jimmy filming.

GINA

COMMISSIONER GRADY, Do you have a statement about seven of your officers being indicted.

GRADY

No comment.

Gina rushes after, her microphone in his face.

GINA

Commissioner, how do you think the people will feel hearing you cannot control those who are supposed to protect us? What do you want to tell them?

Commissioner Grady stops angrily in his tracks. He turns to face Gina. CHIEF BAKER muscles in between Gina and Grady. He whispers in her ear:

BAKER

Grady saved your boyfriend's job. If I was you, I'd be a grateful.

GINA

He's not my boyfriend.

The brass rush Grady to the waiting Black SUVS.

INT.- NEWS 7 VAN- 11:27 AM

Gina checks her makeup. Jimmy inspects the tape.

JIMMY

What a waste of a good shot. They aren't going to show the exchange between you and the commissioner. You really pissed Grady off. Making friends again, Gina? Those guys are filth.

JIMMY

Give the guy a break. He can't control every cop on the force. You went a bit too far, Girly-Girl. Making an enemy of the police commissioner isn't smart.

GINA

No. you're right, I get it. Totally unprofessional of me. I was pissed off at Matt and took it out on Grady. How stupid.

JIMMY

What did that cop say to you?

GINA

He said Grady saved my boyfriend's job.

JIMMY

Did he?

GINA

I don't' know and I really don't care.

JIM

What did your ex do?

GINA

JACK beat a man who was branding prostitutes. Case was thrown out of court. He was suspended. Would have lost his job, but the guy got caught disfiguring a 17year-old.

JIMMY

You know the score. In this business you only get one shot.

GINA

Yeah, I know. I need to get away for a while and clear my head.

JIMMY

No one will argue after seeing this.

GINA

Thanks Bud, I thought you were on my side.

JIMMY

I am dear.

GINA

(Checks her cellphone.)

I've got something like 100 tweets, 12 messages and God knows how many emails! How the fuck is anyone to get things done?

JIMMY

It's Progress. You'd be lost without them.

GINA

Not sure about that anymore.

JIMMY

What does that mean? You going unplugged?

GINA

I feel like I'm living in a dream.

JIMMY

Like living in a 'Matrix' kind of dream?

GINA

(Smiling)

Wait, are you telling me there aren't any red pills I can take which will free me? JIMMY I've taken every drug. It doesn't exist. GINA Let me know when you find that pill, okay? JIMMY Sure thing. And please, find yourself another boyfriend. You're a bitch when you don't get laid. GINA (Laughing) Too bad you're gay. I'd fuck you right now. JIMMY If I ever turn to the dark side, you'll be my first. GINA Why, am I too old for you? JIMMY Listen Sweetie, I see the way men look at you. You're still HOT. You don't look 40. GINA Wow, thanks. You are right, I need sex.

JIMMY

So, what are you waiting for?

GINA

(Pausing to think)

I honestly don't know, aint that a bitch? INT.- MCGRATH'S TAVERN - 7:52PM Gina meets her friend, LINDA 50, for a drink. Gina in jeans, red top, white down coat. Her dark Brown hair contrasts.

Linda, a Blonde, in jeans and a Black Sweater. Both are attractive. Gina has a Vodka and soda, Linda a Martini.

GINA

I caught Matt cheating and threw him out.

LINDA

Never liked him.

GINA

I am getting second thoughts. You know how strapped I am for cash.

Linda

If you take him back then you are a fool.

GINA

I can't make the bills on my own. He's an asshole and a jerk, but he has money

LINDA

Do you want to make ten thousand dollars?

GINA

How, peddling my ass up on Craig's?

LINDA

No, doing an investigation.

GINA

Investigating what?

LINDA

I know a woman. Owns the dry-cleaning store, does business at my bank. July Wang is her name. Has a smart daughter who dates some big shot and winds up dead. The police say it's a suicide.

GINA

So?

LINDA

Julie came to me for help. She literally begged me to help her.

GINA

What can you do? You manage a bank.

LINDA

That's what I thought; maybe she wanted to hold a fundraiser or something. No, July wants to investigate her daughter's death. Thinks her daughter was murdered. Doesn't trust the police. She gave me an envelope with 10 thousand dollars in cash!

GINA

Linda, Leave it to the police.

LINDA

I told her you might be able to help her. Get this, she discovers that Lucy took her birth control pill the morning she died. Let me ask you, would you take a birth control pill if you were planning suicide?

GINA

Maybe she was stoned.

LINDA

And maybe this is a cover up.

GINA

Let the police do what they're paid to do.

LINDA

Gina, you can do it. You're a reporter.

Linda pulls an envelope filled with cash out of her bag and places in on the table.

LINDA

Take it; you can use the money.

GINA

(Looking around)

Put that away.

She pushes the envelope back to Linda.

GINA

Are you crazy? You're asking me to investigate a possible murder?"

LINDA

All I am asking you to do is look into it.

GINA

This is an ongoing police investigation.

LINDA

That should make it easy. Do what you do best, dig a little.

GINA

I don't do murder.

LINDA

You can always call JACK

GINA

Hold On, girl! Where did that come from? No, I can't. You know how it ended.

LINDA

He'd love to hear from you.

GINA

Yeah, like a bad penny. Forget it, Linda. He is married by now with a baby on the way.

LINDA

I haven't told you, but Jack and his fiancé closed their joint account months ago. It's over between them.

GINA

Why didn't you tell me?

LINDA

I wasn't sure you'd want to know.

GINA

You are right. I don't want to know.

LINDA

I think you still care for him.

GINA

You think? Forget it. She got sick of his shit and threw him out. Serves him right.

LINDA

He ended it.

GINA

How do you know all of this?

LINDA

I ran into his friend, TOMMY.

GINA

What else do you know?

LINDA

He told Tommy that he never got over you.

GINA

Jack dumped me for a younger woman with money. I can never trust him again.

LINDA

You looked happy when you were with him.

GINA

I had a great time with Jack. But he wanted to settle down and I didn't.

LINDA

Maybe youre ready now. What can you lose?

GINA

My soul, Linda, I can lose my soul.

LINDA

Maybe there is something worth saving.

GINA

You of all people know how much it hurt.

LINDA

Think about it. Look into this girl's suicide. You'll make 10 Grand and I'll get a lifetime of free dry cleaning. And, you get to see Jack again. Tell ya the truth, you look like you could use a good screw.

GINA

Why is everyone telling me that?

Linda pushes the envelope across the table again. Gina takes it and places it in her bag. GINA

I am not promising anything, I'll check it out. Tell me the girl's name and whatever else you know...

Linda slides a typed sheet of paper containing Lucy's information across the table.

INT.- NEWS ROOM - 10:06 AM

Gina searches the News Database on Lucy Wang.

GINA

(to herself.)

Here's Lucy's write-up. Possible suicide?

Gina retrieves more information on Lucy.

She makes a call.

Gina's Ex, JACK, 45, answers. He is in a large room filled with desks. Everything is Gray; floors, walls, desks, the lighting, the phones.

JACK

A.C.U., Jack Sincano speaking.

GINA

Jack, hi, it's Gina. Not easy to find you.

(Leaning back and smiling) Wow, hi, Gina. Good to hear your voice. GTNA Same here. I see you were transferred. JACK Yeah, I have been reassigned to the Anti-Crime Unit. How is it going? GINA I'm okay Jack. And you? JACK Good as can be. Gina, this business or pleasure? GINA (She smiles) Business, Jack, you are engaged, remember? Or is it married? JACK Sorry to disappoint you. I am single again. It didn't work out. GINA I am sorry to hear that. But you can't say I didn't warn you. JACK That you did. Why don't you come over tonight? I'll cook and we can catch up. GINA

Sorry Jack, I'd love to, but I have plans.

A lie.

The door is always open Gina. I never really have gotten over you.

GINA

I'll let you know. Meanwhile, I have a favor to ask.

JACK

Are you okay?

GINA

I'm fine. A girl named Lucy Wang turned up dead a few days ago. Supposed Suicide. I have been asked by the family to look into it. Can you check it out for me?

JACK

Gina, you know it's against the regs.

GINA

Since when do you worry about protocol?

JACK

Things have changed. I'm trying to stay on the straight and narrow.

GINA

That's a shame. I liked it when you were a bit reckless. I'll tell you what, do this for me and I'll see you tonight.

JACK

And stay the night?

GINA

You're asking a lot there Mister.

So are you. What makes this so important?

GINA

I am doing this for a family member.

JACK

Then, come share my bed.

GINA

Jack, don't get pushy. I'll meet you for a drink. Does that work? 8 P.M. at McGrath's on 9th street. No promises. And, only if you agree to do it. What is your answer?

JACK

I will ask around. Lucy Wang? W.A.N.G.?

GINA

Yes, that's it. Later, Jack.

JACK

See you at 8 ...

She hangs up and smiles.

GINA

(To herself)

Jack Cinco. Careful girl, broke your heart.

INT. - MIDTOWN SOUTH PRECINCT -2:18 PM

Jack checks the police computer and learns that DETECTIVE MARC DAVIS is handling the investigation. He finds his number and calls.

MARC

Homicide, Davis here.

Detective Davis, this is Officer Jack Sincano of ACU.

MARC

Hello Jack. What can I do for you?

JACK

I understand you are working a case, Lucy Wang. I was wondering if I could talk to you about it.

MARC

What is your involvement?

JACK

I am a friend of the family.

MARC

Stop by Midtown North tomorrow.

JACK

Sure thing, thanks.

He hangs up just as two Plainclothes officers from Internal Affairs, MORGAN, 36 and GARCIA, 40, walk into Jack's office.

MORGAN

How's it going, Cinco?

JACK

Okay until just now.

GARCIA

I don't know who pulled strings to get you reassigned, but it's not gonna save your sorry ass.

Give me a break. I'm clean.

MORGAN

Not according to a new source. We hear you are using on the down low.

JACK

Not true.

MORGAN

Prove it.

He holds up a urine specimen jar.

JACK

Like I trust you not to switch jars. If it gets you clowns off my back, I'll give a sample to the department nurse tomorrow.

GARCIA

That will do. Why don't you do yourself a favor and retire? You have enough time in. I hear Pest Control is booming.

JACK

And miss out on these inspiring moments?

They turn and walk out. Morgan points his finger at JACK and makes believe fires.

INT. - LESTER'S APARTMENT - 11:17 PM

LESTER

We need to show this to the cops.

PHILLY

No way, Man. No cops. I have a better idea.

LESTER

Yeah, what's that?

PHILLY

Blackmail them.

LESTER

YOU CRAZY OR WHAT?!

PHILLY

My sister works for the phone company. She can get their number.

LESTER

Then, what?

PHILLY

We lay it out to them. See what they offer.

LESTER

It's that easy?

PHILLY

Yeah, they will pay. They have no choice.

LESTER

They can kill us too.

PHILLY

Say we made copies. If anything happens to us the copies will be sent to the police.

LESTER

Nobody's gonna believe your sorry junkie ass? We'll get busted.

PHILLY

They ain't calling the cops, Man.

LESTER

It's blood money. I don't want it messing my life.

PHILLY

Your life is already a mess. Look at us. We rot in this shit hole while they live like kings across the street. Here's our chance!

LESTER

Philly, if you don't want to go to the police, then okay, we won't. But I'm telling ya. I don't want you thinking we are going to get rich. It aint right.

PHILLY

Listen Man, here's our chance.

LESTER

No Philly, We're not getting messed up in this. No, No, No. You got it? It's bad Karma, dude.

PHILLY

Okay, man. I'm with you.

LESTER

You sure?

PHILLY

Yeah, Lester.

LESTER

Let's get something to eat, Man. What you want? Burger?

PHILLY

That's cool. I'm starving.

INT. - MCGRATH'S TAVERN - 9:14PM

JACK

Standing at the bar

Well, Hello there, Beautiful.

He kisses her cheek. She awkwardly leans in.

GINA

Hi Jack.

She smiles, noticing his collection of drink straws.

Looks like you've been here a while.

JACK

Well, you did say 8 P.M.

GINA

Sorry about that. Didn't think you'd come.

JACK

And miss out on seeing my favorite lady?

GINA

Sure, that's a laugh. Favorite until something young and rich comes along.

JACK

Gina, hey, listen, we all make mistakes. I thought she was the one.

GINA

And I wasn't, obviously.

JACK

Well, I am here with you now. That must mean something. Doesn't it?

GINA

You aren't with me, Jack. Just a drink, remember?

JACK

No problem, you'll come around.

GINA

That's asking a lot.

JACK

You know how special it was for us, Gina.

GINA

If it was so fucking special then why did you dump me?

JACK

I'm sorry. You scared me.

GINA

I scared you?

JACK

Yeah, you did. I was afraid you would never settle down. I was going through hell with the department. I wanted to start over in a new direction.

GINA

Your new direction didn't have room for me.

JACK

Every time I told you I loved you; you would say either; 'no, you don't, or, 'don't confuse love with lust'. I thought you were just in it for the fun. And yeah, it was a lot of fun, but...

GINA

That is a shitty excuse. You didn't give me a chance.

JACK

Like I said, I was fucked up.

GINA

Oh well, fuck it. I forgive you. I don't trust you, but I forgive you.

JACK

What are you drinking? The usual?

GINA

Sure. Why not?

JACK

Bartender, 2 vodka Martinis please. Straight up. Can you make one dirty?

GINA

Make both dirty, Pauly, thanks

Jack faces Gina; her eyes are closed.

JACK

Making a wish?

GINA

No, what color are my eyes?

JACK

Come on, that is stupid.

GINA

No really, what color?

Light Brown, okay?

GINA

Okay. You remembered.

JACK

What should we drink to? Oh yes, us.

GINA

No. let's drink to you telling me all you know about Lucy Wang.

JACK

I have a meeting tomorrow with the detective in charge. I checked the Department's computer, couldn't find much. Possible suicide. Found Lucy's Social Media accounts. She was a pretty girl.

GINA

Nothing else?

JACK

Too soon. Tell me, why the interest?

GINA

I am doing a favor for the family.

JACK

That's the same line I'm using.

GINA

Taught you well.

JACK

Does the family want closure?

GINA

No, they want the truth.

JACK

That isn't always possible.

GINA

I know, but please try anyway.

JACK

To see you again. I will, promise.

Jack leads her to a booth.

JACK

I still love you.

GINA

Don't confuse Love with Lust.

JACK

See, there you go again.

GINA

Remember what you told me a few minutes ago, how I frightened you? I'm afraid I will get attached and you'll run off again.

JACK

I know what I want. I want you.

He leans over and kisses her, holding the side of her face. She leans in, they kiss slowly.

Gina abruptly stops and pushes him away.

JACK

What?!

GINA

Are you serious? You started smoking again?

JACK

Stress.

GINA

I can't believe it. Don't you remember how difficult it was for you to quit?

JACK

Yeah, I remember. What can I say, I'm weak.

GINA

That's a lame excuse. Listen, I have to go. I can't do this. It's too fast.

JACK

No really, stay. Please? You're safe tonight.

GINA

I'm not so sure.

She drinks her Martini quickly, kisses him again before walking away sexily.

GINA

Glancing over her shoulder.

Call me tomorrow, okay?

JACK

(Raising his glass in a toast)

You bet.

INT. - APARTMENT- 11:48AM

Philly has no intention of forgetting the video.

He arrives at his SISTER'S apartment.

PHILLY

Hey, Sis. How's it going?

SISTER

It's going Philly. What brings you around?

PHILLY

Need a favor, Sis. I need a name and phone number for an address.

SISTER

Why do you need that?

PHILLY

He has a motorcycle I want to buy.

SISTER

Since when do you like motorcycles?

PHILLY

It's an old Triumph.

SISTER

And get yourself killed! Forget it.

PHILLY

No, it would be an investment.

SISTER

You don't have money to invest.

PHILLY

I know someone who is looking for one. If it works out, you'll get a hundred dollars.

SISTER

What if he doesn't want to sell it?

PHILLY

I throw away the number.

SISTER

Don't know. I can get in trouble.

PHILLY

Just get me the guy's name and phone number. I won't say how I got the number.

SISTER

And you'll give me a hundred dollars?

PHILLY

Yeah. You gonna do it for me?

SISTER

Yeah, I'll get it for you.

INT. - MIDTOWN PRECINCT NORTH- 10:55 AM

Marc Davis stands to greet Jack. He is wearing a medium blue suit, white shirt and red tie. Jack who is working undercover, is in work pants, boots, flannel shirt, topped by a worn brown leather jacket. He feels underdressed. He looks around the large office. It's painted white and not the gray used through the force.

MARC

(Shaking Jack's hand)

Jack Sincano. Nice meeting you. I hear you're a bit of a renegade.

JACK

That's the old Jack. No more cowboy for me. I love your office colors.

MARC

I painted it myself. Therapy, I guess. Got sick of the official colors. I asked around about you but got conflicting stories. What happened?

JACK

I was undercover, on loan to narcotics, moving drugs for a cartel. On a buy and just handed 2 Keez of Speedball.

MARC

Speedball?

JACK

Heroin Cocaine Mix. Anyway, on the way out, I spot a plain clothes cop on the ground, wrestling with a BIG GUY, fighting over a handgun. I jumped in and got shot.

MARC

Wow, talk about bad luck.

JACK

I had no ID since I was undercover. They found the drugs and arrested me. They detected drugs in my bloodwork. With Grady's help, I was reassigned, but still being investigated by Internal Affairs.

MARC

Sounds like a good cop ruined by the system. So, what can I do for you officer?

JACK

Older, wiser maybe. Like I mentioned, checking on the Lucy Wang investigation.

(Opening a folder)

Your friend got involved with a high roller. Political even. Then she takes a swan dive from the terrace.

JACK

What do you know about Lucy?

MARC

Smart, Spoke several languages. Worked at the U.N.

JACK

Doesn't sound like a jumper to me.

MARC

I have the toxicology report. No drugs or alcohol detected. Spoke with her employers; said she was professional. There, you have it.

JACK

The family believes it was murder.

MARC

This guy is well connected and has a witness. I'd be a fool to suggest anything but suicide. There are inconsistencies, her blouse worn inside out, unusual bruises. The coroner's report - here - take this.

Hands Jack a folder.

MARC

It's a copy of the Lucy Wang file. Look it over. Maybe I missed something.

MARC

(Pointing at the file)

The coroner believes the bruises to her neck might have occurred prior to the girl's death. But 'Might have' won't hold up in court, you know that.

JACK

Why are you showing me all this?

MARC

My department is overwhelmed. We have an ongoing Child Killer investigation. I could use some help. You interested?

JACK

You have no idea how much.

MARC

So, take it.

JACK

Have an opinion?

MARC

I think the assistant is full of shit. He's covering up for his boss. He's shifty.

JACK

You think he is lying?

MARC

I think Richard is William's protector. William had too much alcohol that night. Richard would lie to save his boss. Certain.

JACK

What William story?

MARC

William's grandfather manufactured men's clothing in the Garment District but switched to making uniforms for the War effort. The company now makes bullet proof vests and tactical gear. He's CEO and Chair, but not involved in daily operations. William went to Princeton and played football, got injured and now limps. More of a Jet setter from what I read.

JACK

What's next?

MARC

I'm meeting him today. Why don't you come?

JACK

What time?

MARC

Four o: clock at his apartment. Here's the address. See if you can make it.

JACK

Thanks, Marc, I appreciate it.

MARC

Meet me there at 15:30. And NO Cowboy.

JACK

That's the old Jack, I've mellowed. To prove it, I'll bring coffee and donuts.

MARC

No donuts. Coffee's fine. A skim milk Latte. No sugar.

JACK

You got it, see you there.

MARC

Later, Jack.

INT. - NEWS 7 OFFICES - 2:09 PM Gina answers her office extension. JACK (O.S.) Hey, Gina. It's Jack. Can you talk? GINA Sure, what's up? JACK (O.S.) Spoke to the detective on Lucy's case. GINA Cool, what's the scoop? JACK (O.S.) I'll share the details with you. Come over tonight. I'll make dinner and we can talk. GINA How about we meet at McGrath's at 9? JACK (O.S.) No, that won't work. GINA And why wouldn't it? JACK (O.S.)

I have a copy of the report. I'm not bringing it anywhere public.

GINA

Don't you trust me, Jack?

JACK (O.S.) It feels like you don't trust me. GINA I trust you. Maybe I don't trust myself. JACK (O.S.) Have dinner with me tonight. Spaghetti and meatballs. You know the address. 7:30. GINA Jack, listen... JACK (O.S.) No, you listen, please. I know I hurt you. I'm sorry. Come on, Gina, give me a chance. GINA Yeah Jack, it was good. I need time. JACK (O.S.) Take all the time you want. Come over tonight. GINA Okay, I'm down for it. I'll come. Just to talk. 7:30. JACK (O.S.) Great, I will pick up some wine. GINA Jack, this is Not a date. JACK (O.S.) Homemade Linguini and red sauce. Need Wine. Yeah, that's fine. See you later.

JACK (O.S.)

You remember the address? Want directions?

GINA

I remember. Better not be any fiancé's pictures on display. That's a deal breaker.

JACK (O.S.)

You won't find any.

Jack frantically searches his apartment, looking for signs of another woman's presence. He checks the nightstand, the medicine cabinet, drawers and, the closet. He finds a cardboard box. Carries it to the living room table. Sitting on the couch, he opens the box and retrieves what is inside - a crack pipe and clear vials of Speedball.

He lights a cigarette. Gazes at the pipe.

No time for this, he needs to meet Marc.

Jack throws the drugs in the box. Rushes out the door.

INT. -WILLIAM'S APARTMENT BUILDING - 3:49 PM

Jack parks across the street from William's apartment. He has Marc's Latte. Marc arrives in his Ford Crown Vic.

JACK

Just as you ordered, Detective.

MARC

Thanks again.

They enter. Marc flashes his shield to the doorman.

MARC

Looking for the SUPER. He's expecting us.

DOORMAN

Room 215. The apartment is on the right.

MARC

Thanks, we will be going to see Mister Gainz after.

INT. ROOM 215 - CONT.D

CARL, 55, a pleasant faced, plump man answers the door.

MARC

You Carl?

CARL

Yes, hi. Come in Officers. This is a copy of the security video you requested.

He hands over a disk. Marc hands it to Jack.

MARC

Thanks. Can you tell me how well you know Mister Gainz?"

CARL

Not much, I'm afraid.

MARC

Just trying to get a sense of the man.

CARL

I heard he may work for the President.

MARC

Yeah, so have I. Thanks for the copy.

CARL

Glad to help.

INT. - WILLIAM'S APARTMENT - 4:07 PM

The men ride the elevator to the 8th floor. William's door is open. They walk in.

Josh and William are sitting on the leather couch. Richard is standing by the tall windows.

JOSH

Good afternoon, detective. Care for a drink?

MARC

No thanks. I haven't had lunch yet. Jack?

JACK

No, no thanks.

JOSH

I believe we've met.

MARC

This is Detective Jack Sincano.

JOSH

Yes, we have meet. You were in Vice.

JACK

Yes, that's right; you were Michael Kaufman's attorney. I remember.

JOSH

You beat him to get a confession. Weren't you suspended? Caught with drugs?

JACK

Yup, nearly lost my job. I would do it again. Kaufman beat and branded that girl. He targeted prostitutes! Then, she was paid off to recant her testimony.

JOSH

That's hearsay. Blame the justice system. I did my job. You are in Homicide now?

MARC

Jack is on a loan from the anti-crime unit. There has been an upsurge in suicides.

JOSH

Well, please let me know if there is anything we can do to help.

MARC

I'd like to request fingerprints and DNA samples from Richard and William.

JOSH

I don't understand what purpose that would serve, Detective.

MARC

They found foreign DNA on Lucy's body.

JOSH

That's ridiculous. You have their statements. I hardly think it's necessary.

MARC

Just trying to tie up loose ends, counselor.

JOSH

Why don't you tell me what those are?

MARC

For starters, foreign DNA.

JOSH

It's out of the question.

RICHARD

I have no objections to giving my DNA.

JOSH

I'm speaking here. Sorry, Detective. Get a court order to draw their blood.

MARC

No blood needed. One of our technicians can do it. They just use a swab.

JOSH

Absolutely not. Anything else?

Marc paces, his hands linked behind his back.

MARC

Notice any bruises on her?

RICHARD

Bruises?

MARC

Yes, particularly around her neck area.

JOSH

You don't have to answer that.

MARC

The coroner found bruising on her neck which appears to have caused her death.

JOSH

Detective, the girl fell 80 feet onto concrete. Let's not presume anything.

MARC

I'm not suggesting anything, counselor. I am looking for a reasonable explanation.

Which brings us to the fact that Lucy had shards of glass in her underwear. Can either of you kindly explain how that might have happened?

JOSH

I will not allow you to intimidate my client. No further questions.

MARC

(To Richard)

How are the cuts on your fingers?

RICHARD

(Swallowing)

Fine, thanks.

MARC

That should do it for now. Thanks, have a good day.

Marc turns to leave. Jack remains.

JACK

Counselor, curious, how did you get the nickname 'Peeps'?

JOSH

Early on, I worked for Legal Aid. One of my cases was to defend a Peeping Tom. I

defended him and won an acquittal. While being processed, the FBI found a match of his DNA with a serial rape case. He was convicted of raping women across the country. My colleagues started calling me 'Peeps'. The name stuck.

JACK

That's a great story.

JOSH

Tell me, Why do they call you Cinco?

JACK

It's the number of times I've been shot.

They turn and leave.

INT. ELEVATOR

Marc turns.

MARC

Didn't know you and the lawyer had priors.

JACK

His client was a piece of shit. I should have beat him more.

MARC

Off the record, of course.

JACK

Of course. Hey, why the DNA samples?

MARC

Just wanted to push their buttons. Knew he wouldn't go for it. Opened the door to ask about Lucy's bruises and glass pieces.

JACK

Wow, Smart.

MARC

That's why I have a gold shield.

EXT. - SIDEWALK - CONT.D

They exit the building. Jack stops to light a cigarette. Marc takes a step back. He notices two men sitting in a car.

MARC

Know these guys?

JACK

Yeah, Internal Affairs. Can't get away from them.

MARC

I'll handle this.

Marc walks over and taps on their side window. It lowers. He flashes his gold shield.

MARC

Can I help you guys?

GARCIA

Internal affairs. I'm Garcia, that's Morgan. Need to have a talk with our friend here.

Marc leans into their window.

MARC

We are conducting a murder investigation. This man reports to me. Unless you have something to say to me, I need to ask you to leave.

MORGAN

No problem, Detective. We were leaving.

Morgan grabs Garcia's shoulder.

GARCIA

See you soon, Jack.

They drive away.

INT. - WILLIAM'S APARTMENT -8:01 PM

The phone rings.

WILLIAM

Hello.

PHILLY(O.S.)

This William Gainz?

WILLIAM

Yes, who's calling please?

PHILLY(O.S.)

I have something important for you.

WILLIAM

Who is this?

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PHILLY(O.S.)
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I have a video of you from the other night ...

WILLIAM

Who is this? How did you get this number?

PHILLY(O.S.)

... Of You and the Girl- Falling

William freezes.

PHILLY(O.S.) (Cont.)

I have video. Talk to me or we show the police.

WILLIAM

Hold on a minute.

William takes a breath.

We shouldn't be talking on the phone. Can we meet in person? Where? When?

PHILLY(O.S.)

I will be in touch.

Hangs Up.

INT. - RICHARD'S APARTMENT - 8:16 PM

Phone rings.

WILLIAM

Richard. We need to talk.

RICHARD

William, hi. What's going on?

WILLIAM

It's important we speak, now.

RICHARD

Alright, go ahead.

WILLIAM

No, Come over.

RICHARD

I just sat down to eat.

WILLIAM

No, Now. It's important.

RICHARD

Okay, I'll be right over.

INT. - WILLIAM'S APARTMENT -8:39 PM

RICHARD

Hi, William, what's the emergency?

WILLIAM

A man called. Said he has a video of us.

Richard pours himself a drink.

RICHARD

What are you talking about?

WILLIAM

He asked for me by name. Said he has a video of us and Lucy. Threatened to go to the police. I suggested we meet in person.

RICHARD

That's good. He agreed?

WILLIAM

Said he'll be in touch and hung up.

RICHARD

What do you think this is about?

WILLIAM

It's obvious, Blackmail.

WILLIAM

What do we do now? I can't believe how fucked up everything is.

RICHARD

If he calls back, agree to meet him in a public place to inspect the video. I will go in your place.

WILLIAM

And, if it is real?

RICHARD

We pay him.

WILLIAM

Once you start paying it never ends. Oh, my God, I should never have listened to you.

RICHARD

It's too late now, no worries, I will make sure they don't come back again.

WILLIAM

How are you going to do that?

RICHARD

Just leave that to me.

WILLIAM

Anyone can take video with their cellphone.

RICHARD

No matter. Set up a meeting with them.

WILLIAM

What if he knows me?

RICHARD

Doubt it. I will meet them. I got this.

WILLIAM

What if he goes to the police?

RICHARD

He won't. He wants money. He's looking to make a deal.

WILLIAM

I don't know what to do. I am so fucked!

RICHARD

Trust me. If he calls back, schedule a meeting in a public place, I'll go.

WILLIAM

You sure of this?

RICHARD

I ever fail you?

WILLIAM

No.

RICHARD

And I won't now. He'll call back, soon, maybe tomorrow. Try and get him to meet at the Boathouse in Central Park, if it's raining, Grand Central Terminal.

WILLIAM

Okay.

RICHARD

Good. I'm going home. You better get some sleep, you look exhausted.

INT - JACK'S APARTMENT - 8:45 PM

Jack buzzes Gina in. Waits at the landing. She offers her cheek. She walks past him, into his apartment and looks around.

GINA

Looks the same. I would have thought you'd have changed everything by now.

JACK

That was the plan. You look Nice.

GINA

Thanks. Here, I have a present for you.

Gina hands him a small box.

JACK

What is it?

GINA

Open it.

Jack reveals an electronic cigarette.

JACK

What do I do with it?

GINA

You stick it in your mouth and suck. See, it's just like a cigarette. There is nicotine, but no tar, supposedly safer for you.

JACK

Thank you. I'll check it out.

GINA

No, I want you to use it. Can you do that, for me? Please?

JACK

Okay, I'll use it.

GINA

I really care about you.

She kisses his cheek.

JACK

You know, my feelings never left.

GINA

Sure, Whatever.

JACK

I hate it when women say that.

GINA

How'd your meeting go?

He grabs 2 glasses of wine, hands her one.

JACK

Did I tell you how lovely you look?

GINA

(Taking a sip)

Yes, thanks. Your meeting?

JACK

Better than I expected. I've been added to the investigation.

GINA

(Confused look on her face)

What does that mean?

JACK

The detective is sharing his files with me. I have a copy of the video from the apartment where Lucy had her accident.

GINA

You're kidding, right? So, what's in it? Can I see it?

JACK

After dinner.

GINA

That's not fair!

Gina chugs down her wine.

JACK

(Smiling)

You are such a brat.

GINA

(Smiling back)

Yes, I am. What? Don't like it?

JACK

Love it.

GINA

Yeah, we'll see about that. It doesn't smell like smoke here.

JACK

I usually don't smoke inside.

GINA

Now you have a reason to quit.

Jack takes Gina by the arm and sits her down.

JACK

We have a lot to talk about.

Gina pours herself another glass.

GINA

I always liked this apartment.

JACK

I like your rooftop garden.

GINA

Yeah, I like the garden.

Jack places a large platter of pasta and meatballs on the table. They eat.

JACK

What do you enjoy?

GINA

Good music. Keeping it interesting and real. Good friends and good times.

JACK

Any regrets?

GINA

Choosing a career over a family. I'd probably be a horrible mother anyway.

JACK

I've seen you with your nieces and nephew. You'd be great.

GINA

Thanks. What about you, what makes you happy?

JACK

I used to think I wanted a fast life, until I lived it.

How is your family?

GINA

Wow, you have changed. A year ago, and you'd be all over me by now.

JACK

I'm warming up.

GINA

I'm going to ignore that statement. My brother THOMAS is still a dick. I don't see him much. I speak with my sister, RACHEL often. Her kids are wonderful. My mother is doing well, thank God. How's your mom by the way?

JACK

She moved to North Carolina to live with my brother. She's okay. She likes you.

GINA

My Mom always liked you too.

JACK

How's Linda?

GINA

Great. I told her I would be seeing you. She told me not to come.

JACK

Always got your back.

I don't know what I'd do without her.

JACK

I wish I had a friend like that.

GINA

You had me.

JACK

I think I like you better now.

GINA

What is that supposed to mean?

JACK

It's hard to say.

GINA

Just say it then. Spit it out.

JACK

I thought about you a lot. I didn't want to, but I did.

GINA

And? If you recall, I was the one who made first contact.

JACK

I was afraid. I truly missed you.

GINA

Wow, thanks, that was nice.

Her hand on his arm, leans over and kisses him. It lasts 6 seconds. Gina puts her hand to his face and pulls her lips away. She looks at him. Did I do something wrong?

GINA

It's not you, it's me.

JACK starts to pull back. She grabs his arm.

GINA

I am trying to get over the hurt. Maybe I drove you away. But it still hurts. I need time.

JACK

No pressure.

They eat and talk.

JACK

We had some good times, Gina.

GINA

I was there too. Stop reminding me.

JACK

Are you in a relationship now?

GINA

No, just broke it off. You seeing anyone?

JACK

Not, not for 6 months.

GINA

No way could you remain celibate for 6 months, Jack.

JACK

Believe it or not.

GINA

When did you and Jackie Break up?

JACKIE

6 months ago, and it's Jesse.

GINA

(Draining her 2nd glass)

Yeah, well, whatever. You have more wine?

Jack is ready, bottle in hand.

GINA

What ended your relationship with Jackie?

JACK

You want the truth?

GINA

No, lie to me. Yes, I want the truth.

JACK

You are going to think it's crazy.

GINA

(Leaning forward)

Now I really need to know.

JACK

I used to think of you while having sex.

GINA

That's kinky.

JACK

It's true.

GINA

You thought about me while having sex. That is weird on so many levels.

JACK

I thought it would fade with time, but it didn't. I couldn't tell her. She knew something was wrong. I told her in an argument and that was it.

GINA

You really did fantasize about me while screwing Jackie?

JACK

Look, don't get freaked out.

GINA

No, I'm okay with it. To tell the truth, I did the same thing.

JACK

You thought about me while having sex with someone else?

GINA

(Smiling Broadly)

No. I thought about someone else while screwing you.

JACK

Oh, I get it. Beat up Jack time. Okay, I can take it. Bring it on...

GINA

I'm special. You have to work for this.

JACK

I'm willing.

Gina drinks another sip of wine.

GINA

Kiss me again.

JACK

You sure?

GINA

Kiss me.

A long, slow, seductive kiss.

Gina stops, lets out a slow whistle.

GINA

Where did you learn to kiss like that?

JACK

Practice, I guess.

GINA

What else did Jackie teach you?

They finish dinner. He cleans up the table. Gina examines his music collection and photographs. Gina is pleased to see photos of her and Jack on display and none of other women.

Jack pours more wine.

JACK

Sit here, I have something to show you.

He slips a Disk into the player. A moment later they are watching the security camera tape.

JACK

This is the apartment building where Lucy's accident happened.

Gina curls up next to Jack on the couch. Jack handles the remote and fast forwards, slows down - pauses when a person enters or leaves.

JACK

This from the lobby. These may be tenants or guests; I need to try and find out who everyone is. Can you take a pic with my camera of each person? I will freeze it, okay?

GINA

Sure, let me know when.

Jack freezes the when Lucy and William enter. Gina snaps a pic. Jack fast forwards until he notices other movements. Gina keeps taking pictures.

GINA

Slow down, wait. Stop. Okay, got it.

Her leg is now wrapped around Jack's for balance as she leans forward and takes each picture. She realizes it and pauses, continues with a shrug and smile.

The video stops when Richard enters. Gina takes his picture.

JACK

He's the assistant, name is Richard.

GINA

What does the boyfriend do?

JACK

Family owns a manufacturing company. He is the CFO. His name is William Gainz.

Other people enter and leave. Gina snaps a picture every time Jack pauses the feed.

Richard departs. Other couples, singles and one elderly man leaves.

Gina takes more photos.

Richard comes back again.

JACK

I thought he was there all the time?

A couple leaves and a woman departs. The elderly man returns with plastic food bags.

Another man enters.

JACK

That's Josh, the attorney. That man is Marc Davis.

GINA

He's handsome.

Then the police leave.

Gina reviews all the photos she took.

JACK

I think you have them all.

Jack opens his briefcase and removes the case file. He and Gina read it.

GINA

Why all the interest in the tenants?

JACK

Marc thinks the assistant is lying to protect his boss. He may be right.

Jack leans back on the couch with the file in his hands. Gina next to him. They review the file; she is taking notes. She is aroused by his closeness.

JACK

Have I told you how beautiful ...

Gina cuts him off with her finger to his lips.

GINA

Shut up and kiss me.

They kiss.

He tries to speak again.

JACK

No really, have I...?

She kisses him again. This time he is quiet.

GINA

Show me what else you've learned.

They embrace again.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. - BEDROOM - 08:11AM

Gina wakes in bed wrapped in Jack's arms. She cuddles closer. He stirs. She kisses his neck which causes him to wake in an excited state.

GINA

I see you're ready for round two.

JACK

I can go all day.

They embrace again.

She starts to remove her blouse. When it is halfway over her head, covering her eyes, Jack stops her. Her arms are tangled in her top. He kisses her. She tries to kiss him back. Her mouth open in anticipation.

He lets go and allows her remove her top.

GINA

Go for it.

SHADOWS OF THEM MAKING LOVE

INT. - JACK'S APARTMENT - 11:19 AM

Gina is wearing his flannel shirt, sips coffee.

GINA

Okay, lover boy I have to go.

JACK

Stay, I'll make us breakfast.

GINA

Don't you want to find out who these photos belong to?

JACK

I can check on Monday.

She kisses him.

GINA

I'll tell you what. Let me go home and shower while you are checking out the pictures. We can meet later for Italian.

He grabs her leg.

JACK

You can have Italian right now!

GINA

That's the Jack I remember. Down boy.

JACK

Want to take a shower here?

GINA

I have no extra clothes.

JACK

I don't mind a bit.

She mock punches him.

GINA

Stop it. I need to change my underwear at least.

JACK

Here, wear a pair of mine.

He tosses her a pair of sport boxers.

GINA

Very funny, Jack. Hah-hah. Damn lucky you didn't toss me a pair of your exes panties!

She sashays into the bath.

INT. - WILLIAM'S APARTMENT - 1:12 PM

They speak to William's doorman.

JACK

This is Officer Minnow. We need help identifying these people.

Gina shows him the pictures.

DOORMAN

That man is Mister Tate, 415. And, that is Claudia, Mister Gainz's cleaning lady...

GINA

No one mentioned a cleaning woman.

DOORMAN

She works at the Belvedere hotel during the day and cleans at night.

GINA

Do you know her last name?

DOORMAN

It's in the computer. We don't let anyone in unless they are on the list.

JACK

Can you find it?

DOORMAN

Yeah, hold on. I got it. Claudia Delgado.

Gina writes that down. They leave.

INT. BELVEDERE HOTEL - 1:48 PM

They meet with the Hotel's security manager. He identifies Claudia and provides her address.

INT - WILLIAM'S APARTMENT -3:47 PM

The phone rings.

WILLIAM

Hello.

PHILLY(O.S.)

William Gainz?

WILLIAM

Yes, hello.

PHILLY(O.S.)

I called the other day.

WILLIAM

Yes, I know.

PHILLY (O.S.)

You ready to talk?

WILLIAM

Yes. Can you meet me tomorrow afternoon? 1pm at the Boat house in Central Park.

PHILLY (O.S.)

Make it 2:30.

WILLIAM

That's fine. How will I recognize you?

PHILLY(O.S.)

Don't worry, I will find you.

The man hangs up.

INT - MCGRATH'S TAVERN - 8PM

Jack and Gina join Linda and a date. The couples are drinking and laughing.

JACK

Excuse me for a minute.

The girls notice he went outside for a smoke.

GINA

I can't believe he started smoking again.

LINDA

Give it time. How's it going otherwise?

GINA

I want him next to me all the time.

LINDA

That's great.

GINA

I gave him an electronic cigarette. You would think he'd be using that instead.

LINDA

Just enjoy the moment, okay?

GINA

Okay, I'll try.

LINDA

Good girl.

EXT.- CENTRAL PARK BOAT HOUSE -2:30 PM

Richard arrives promptly at the Boat house.

He stands alone, taking in the park when he is approached by a man.

PHILLY

You got a cigarette?

RICHARD

No, sorry, I don't smoke.

PHILLY

(Looking around shiftily)

You Gainz?

RICHARD

Yes, I am.

PHILLY

I have the video on my phone. I have a copy in a safe place, so no funny stuff. Okay?

RICHARD

I need to see it.

Philly holds up his phone Richard to see. The video clearly shows them on the balcony.

RICHARD

That's enough. What do you want?

PHILLY

One hundred thousand dollars in cash. No marked bills and no games, you got that? Understand?

RICHARD

Yeah, I get it.

PHILLY

Fuck with me and the cops get the tape.

RICHARD

No, I understand. No police.

PHILLY

I want it tomorrow. I will call you later and tell you where to go and at what time. Bring the money and come alone.

RICHARD

It's a lot of money. I need time to get it.

PHILLY

I will call you later.

RICHARD

Wait.

Richard hands Philly a piece of paper.

RICHARD

Here's my cell number. Call that instead.

Philly walks away.

EXT. - CONEY ISLAND AQUARIUM - 08:55 AM

Jimmy is taping:

GINA

It's a great day for animal lovers, for Coney Island, and for New York. Today, the Coney Island Aquarium, after years of planning and hard work, is finally ready to reopen. New Yorker's and out of state visitors will finally get to see the new additions. Just look at those people waiting to get in. So, if you have been waiting for this big event, here it is. Please stop on by. You will thank me.

JIMMY

And it's a wrap. Nice job. Wanna go inside and look around?

Gina notices Jack walking up with 2 coffees in his hand. They kiss. He hands Gina a coffee. Shakes Jimmy's hand.

JACK

Hi, I'm Jack.

JIMMY

So, you're the stud.

GINA

Jimmy, why don't you go inside and check out the Aquarium. I'll watch the equipment.

JIMMY

I can take a hint. Nice meeting you, Jack. He places his camera in the van and leaves.

JACK

Stud?

GINA

Are you stalking me officer?

JACK

No, actually on the job.

GINA

Dressed like that?

JACK

Yeah, why you don't like it?

GINA

You look fine. What is it that you do now?

JACK

Catch felony suspects. You can't do that looking like a cop.

GINA

No more hookers?

JACK

No, now it's hard-core criminals.

GINA

I like that better. Miss your ladies?

JACK

You have no idea the sad stories of those women. Most have been abused all their lives. You really should do a story on them. I can set it up.

GINA

That a good idea. Let me talk to my editor.

JACK

I stopped by to say hi and thank you for last night. I had a great time. I'm heading to Bed-Sty' now.

GINA

I had a nice time too.

She kisses him.

JACK

Can I see you later?

GINA

I thought you'd never ask.

JACK

Let me take you for dinner. Do you still like Sushi? Nice place on West 13th.

GINA

I'm down for that, cool.

JACK

Call me later and let me know what time is good. I have to run. Super Cop on the job.

GINA

Be careful, Super Cop.

Jack leaves.

INT. - WILLIAM'S APARTMENT -7:02 PM

WILLIAM

So how did it go?

RICHARD

I saw the tape. It's real.

WILLIAM

And?

RICHARD

He wants one hundred thousand dollars by tomorrow.

WILLIAM

That is a lot of money!

RICHARD

You have to pay it William.

WILLIAM

It's going to take me a few days to get that kind of money.

RICHARD

He wants it by tomorrow. He is going to call me on my cell phone later. I think he's on drugs or something.

WILLIAM

Alright, I can get it from the business account and replace it when I free up some stock. Make it tomorrow.

RICHARD

I will confirm a meeting when he calls.

WILLIAM

How do you know he didn't make a copy?

RICHARD

I have it planned. Leave it to me.

WILLIAM

We can go to the bank in the morning and get the money. Do you feel safe carrying that much?

RICHARD

What about the money you are lending me?

WILLIAM

Sorry, you have to wait. I don't have access to that much cash.

RICHARD

When do you think?

WILLIAM

A few days at least.

RICHARD

Alright, I'll manage somehow.

WILLIAM

You still okay doing this?

RICHARD

Nothing to worry about. Sure.

INT. - RICHARD'S APARTMENT - 9:41 AM

Richard arrives at his apartment. In his hand, a leather overnight bag containing 100 thousand dollars.

Richard examines it. Ten bundles of bills. Each bundle holds one hundred dollar bills.

He removes one bundle and places it in a canvas bag. He leaves the bag with the remaining 90 thousand dollars on his dresser. Richard pulls a small automatic pistol from under his mattress.

RICHARD

Fuck him. After what I did! Gonna make me wait. I'm keeping 90 for myself. Pay off my debt and not owe that asshole money. Karma baby.

He pulls back on the slide of the pistol and loads a cartridge into the chamber.

Richard's cell phone rings.

PHILLY (O.S.)

It's me.

RICHARD

I have the money.

PHILLY (O.S.)

Okay. Take the Staten Island ferry at 11. I'll contact you.

RICHARD

11 A.M Ferry to Staten Island, right?

PHILLY (O.S.)

Yeah.

RICHARD

I don't have a car.

PHILLY (O.S.)

Don't need one.

RICHARD

Okay, I'll be there.

CLICK.

INT. - JACK'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Jack wakes to find Gina sleeping next to him.

He lets her sleep, makes coffee. Finds the milk's sour, rushes out to buy milk and croissants.

Gina wakes as he closes the door. She drinks black coffee and snoops around for evidence of his ex. She finds the cardboard box and opens it, revealing his pipe and drugs.

JACK walks in at that moment.

GINA

What's this?

JACK

Crack

GINA

And?

JACK

I found it the other day and was going to throw it out.

GINA

Yeah, sure you were.

JACK

I am not using, haven't for months.

GINA

After everything you have been through. Jack, what's wrong with you?

JACK

I swear, I was going to throw it out.

GINA

Do it now.

Jack grabs the drugs, walks to the sink. He opens each vial and pours the drugs into the drain. Shudders when the chemical scent of the drugs hits him. He is weak in the knees.

Jack tosses the pipe in the trash.

GINA

I'm going to forget this ever took place.

JACK

I swear, I am not using.

GINA

Look at how it's shaken you.

EXT - STATEN ISLAND FERRY -11AM

It is drizzling. Richard takes a seat inside the cabin. Minutes later, Philly approaches, he appears high.

PHILLY

(As he walks by)

Follow me.

They go out onto the deck. It's noisy, both men are SHOUTING.

PHILLY

You have the money?

RICHARD

Yeah.

PHILLY

Let me see it.

RICHARD

Do you have the tape?

PHILLY

Yeah.

RICHARD

What about copies?

PHILLY

There are none.

RICHARD

Don't believe you?

PHILLY

You got no choice. Gimme the money and I'll give you the phone.

RICHARD

What guarantee do I have that I'll never hear from you again?

PHILLY

I don't want any part of you.

RICHARD

Show me the video again.

Philly looks around nervously. Walks into a shady spot. Richard follows.

PHILLY

Stop there. Don't get closer.

He shows Richard the video.

RICHARD

Give me the phone and take the bag.

They exchange the phone for the bag. Richard starts to walk away.

PHILLY

Hey wait!.

Richard pulls the pistol from his pocket.

PHILLY

There Aint 100 thousand here!

Philly does not see the handgun.

RICHARD

There's 10 thousand in the bag. That's all you're getting.

PHILLY

Fuck You, Man. We agreed on 100 Grand!

Philly notices the handgun.

RICHARD

Take the money and go.

PHILLY

Fuck you.

Philly grabs Richard's hand holding the pistol ...

Out comes a kitchen knife from his coat ... Richard grabs his wrist ... Both men struggle ... Philly overpowers Richard ... He stabs Richard in the belly ... Stabs again ... Richard shoots Philly in his chest ... People come running ... Both men are dead. An off-duty policeman secures the scene. Homicide is called. Marc Davis is nearby and responds to the call. MARC

What have we got here?

OFFICER

Double Homicide.

Marc recognizes Richard.

MARC

I know this man. Secure the area.

He dials a number.

MARC

Jack, hi, it's Marc Davis. Put your pants on and come down to the ferry.

JACK (O.S.)

I can be there in 20 minutes.

MARC

No problem, they're not going anywhere.

EXT - STATEN ISLAND FERRY -12:17PM

Jack pulls up among the Emergency vehicles. He finds Marc. Two bodies are on gurneys, awaiting transport.

JACK

What gives?

Marc holds up 2 evidence bags.

MARC

Richard was just stabbed to death. He shot the other guy. There's 10 thousand dollars cash in this bag.

JACK

Blackmail?

MARC

That's why you're here. I'm going to take the money to the Precinct.

Marc hands the other envelope to Jack.

MARC

I don't have time. Can you go through their personal stuff? Maybe there's a connection Here, sign the voucher.

Jack signs the voucher. Marc nods his head, the paramedics wheel the 2 dead men away.

Jack shakes Marc's hand and leaves.

INT.-CLAUDIA'S APARTMENT- 3:09 PM

Gina rings the bell. A voice on speaker:

CLAUDIA (O.S.)

Hello, who is it?

GINA

Mrs. Delgado, I am with the New York Police Department. I need to speak with you.

The door partially opens.

GINA

Hello Mrs. Delgado, I am Officer Jackson.

CLAUDIA

Show me your badge.

GINA

I don't have one.

CLAUDIA

You are no police, I know you, you TV woman.

GINA

Yeah, that's true. I'm here to help you. Can we talk? Prefieres que hablemos en espanol?

CLAUDIA

No, English is Okay. What do you want?

GINA

You were working at Mister Gainz's apartment when Lucy Wang died.

CLAUDIA

No, that is no true.

GINA

This is a photo of you leaving the apartment after her death.

Gina holds the photograph.

Claudia tries to slam the door shut. Gina's foot blocks it. It hurts but she pushes on.

GINA

I need to talk to you about what happened.

CLAUDIA

I saw nothing.

GINA

Claudia, the police are investigating Lucy Wang's death. You were there when she died.

CLAUDIA

No, I saw nothing.

GINA

Tell me what you know. I can help you.

CLAUDIA

Please, I saw nothing. I was not in the room when she hit her head.

GINA

Starts recording with phone.

She hit her head? How?

CLAUDIA

I do not know anything.

GINA

(Grabbing Claudia's arms.)

How did she hit her head?

CLAUDIA

(shaking)

Mister Gainz called me. He was screaming. I tried to help, she was dead.

GINA

Where was this?

CLAUDIA

In the bedroom.

GINA

She was dead when you found her in Mister Gainz' bedroom?

CLAUDIA

Yes.

GINA

What did Mister Gainz say?

CLAUDIA

Said it was an accident. Mister Richard told me no speak to anyone. You want to help me. No police. I'm scared.

GINA

Nothing will happen to you, I promise. I need you to speak to a policeman who is a friend of mine. Can you do that?

CLAUDIA

Mister Richard say to tell no one.

GINA

Richard was wrong, Claudia. I am trying to help you. You can get into a lot of trouble if you don't cooperate.

CLAUDIA

Nothing will happen to me?

GINA

I promise. Nothing bad will happen to you.

CLAUDIA

You are good. I trust you. Thank you.

GINA

I will bring my friend around later.

CLAUDIA

That's good. I do not have to work tonight.

I'm sorry.

GINA

You have nothing to be sorry about.

INT. - JACK'S APARTMENT- 3:10 PM

Jack sits on his couch. He places the large evidence bag on the coffee table. He opens it, removes two inner bags. From the first he removes a watch, cell phone, keys, wallet.

JACK

Nice watch!

Jack searches through Richard's wallet.

Tell me Richard, what are you hiding?

Wallet, Brown. NY Driver's license. Medical Plan card. Credit cards. Business cards. 65 dollars in cash.

Jack takes a drag of his electronic cigarette. He blows out the vapor. It tastes terrible. He shrugs and continues. Sliding everything to the side, turns to the other sealed bag.

JACK

Now, who the fuck are you? Oh, yeah, here we go. Wallet. Your Social - PHILLIP BAKER. Nice to meet you.

What else have you got here? One 20-dollar bill and a MetroCard.

A small plastic bag falls out. Inside are whitish crystals of Crack Cocaine.

Jack's hands begin getting clammy. He closes his eyes and takes a deep breath. He puts the plastic bag back in the wallet. Closes it.

Jack turns to the cell phones. Checks Richard's.

JACK

Damn, Samsung's hard to hack. Got to bring this in for the Techs.

He picks up Philly's phone.

I-Phone. No problem. I can hack these. Just bypass the security. Keyboard. Hit Emergency Call, Shut off. Turn on. Repeat...

Jack gains access to Phillip's phone. Checks calls. He jots them down on a notepad. Looks for texts and emails.

JACK checks the photos. Various locations.

There are 3 videos. Jack watches. A Caribbean Parade in Brooklyn. Times Square on New Year's Eve. A girl being tossed from a terrace by 2 men.

JACK

Gotca!

The phone rings.

GINA (O.S.)

(Sounding excited)

Jack, I just saw the cleaning woman...

JACK

Come to my apartment, I need to show you something.

GINA (O.S.)

You better learn another line.

JACK

Serious. It involves Lucy. I have a video. Come now.

GINA (O.S.)

A video? Of what?

JACK

Lucy being thrown from the terrace.

GINA (O.S.)

On my way.

INT. JACK'S APARTMENT - (CONT.)

Jack is at the top of the stairs after buzzing her in. They embrace. He opens her hand, places a key in it. JACK

This is yours.

GINA

About time.

THEY WALK INSIDE

Gina searches her bag, hands Jack a key also.

GINA

This is yours. The alarm code is 0610.

JACK

Your birthday, I know. I have another present for you, but didn't know how to wrap it.

She smiles, they kiss.

JACK

Good to have you back.

GINA

Good to be back. So, what about this video?

JACK

Here, look!

Jack shows Gina the video. She has him replay it several times.

GINA

Wow, I need to show that on the news.

JACK

No can do. Evidence. Murder and conspiracy.

GINA

Fine, but I get an exclusive then.

He grabs her.

JACK

Here is your exclusive.

They embrace.

Jack takes a pee, leaving Gina on the couch. She notices the two piles of evidence. She snaps a photo of Richard's license and switches his key for the one Jack gave her minutes before.

INT. - MIDTOWN NORTH PRECINCT - 4:45 PM

Jack walks into a meeting Marc is attending.

JACK

Sorry All, Marc, It's Important.

Marc follows Jack to the hallway.

MARC

What's going on?

JACK

See this.

Marc watches the film.

MARC

Let's nail that son of a bitch to the wall.

JACK

I'm with you.

Marc grabs Jack by the arm. They march into the commanding officer's office, shut the door.

MARC

This video shows William Gainz and his assistant throwing Lucy Wang's body from the balcony.

The captain looks, whistles.

CAPTAIN

How do you know this is real?

MARC

It's real alright. It cost 2 people their lives a couple hours ago.

CAPTAIN

You landed a big one, Marc. Nice job.

MARC

This is Jack Sincano. I want him to have an assist on the arrest.

CAPTAIN

No problem. Excellent work, men.

INT. -RICHARD'S APARTMENT- 08:45 AM

Gina uses Richard's key to enter his apartment.

GINA

Let' see what dirt we can dig up.

She begins snooping around. Checks his mail.

Replays his answering machine messages.

Gina enters the bedroom, sees the open leather overnight bag, looks inside.

She Freezes.

GINA

OH, My GOD! I have to tell Jack. Wait, Stop, hold on - LUCY's mom should get this! Minutes later, Gina leaves, bag in hand.

INT. MULTIPLE SCENES - CONTINUOUS

MOHEGAN SUN CASINO - RESORTS - FOXWOODS

Gina deposits tens of thousands of dollars gambling at three area Casinos. She plays then cashes in, effectively washing the cash. She has run of luck at Foxwoods and wins twenty four thousand on Blackjack.

EXT. -RICHARD GREENBERG'S FUNERAL- 11:16 AM

Marc and Jack approach William Gainz.

MARC

William Gainz, I place you under arrest regarding the death of Lucy Wang...

Jack places handcuffs on William, hands behind his back.

JOSH

Just cooperate, Bill. I'll handle this ...

JACK

You have the right to remain silent ...

Anything you say or do can be used against you in a court of law...

You have the right to an attorney and to have an attorney present during questioning...

If you cannot afford a lawyer, which I doubt, one will be appointed for you before questioning if you chose one...

If you decide to answer any questions now, with your attorney present, you can stop at any time... Do you understand all of this?

JOSH

Say nothing William. No more cooperating.

WILLIAM

I understand. I have nothing to say.

EXT. - NEW YORK CITY STREET - 6PM

Gina Cross is live on TV reporting about the arrest of William Gainz for Murder and Conspiracy.

GINA

Commissioner Grady, what can you tell me about the charges?

GRADY

Thanks to excellent Police work, William Gainz has been arrested for conspiracy to coverup the incidents of Lucy Wang's death.

LUCY'S photo, quarter screen

Back to GRADY

GRADY

Marc Davis conducted the investigation and was assisted by Jack Sincano of ACU.

Both men stand behind the Commissioner.

The camera shows William Gainz being led in handcuffs into the courtroom. He hides his face. His attorney, Josh O'Neal reads a statement:

JOSH

William Gainz is innocent. I have proof that his assistant, Richard Greenberg, murdered Lucy Wang and blackmailed my client. The blackmail money is in sequential bills. We are looking for the money...

INT. DRY CLEANING STORE - DAYS LATER

Gina, in a blonde wig and sunglasses enters. She places the leather bag on the counter. July emerges from the back. Gina opens the bag and dumps 90 thousand dollars from it.

July stares in disbelief.

GINA

Reward for helping catch Lucy's killer. Get yourself a great lawyer and sue William's estate. He's worth Millions.

JULY

(smiling)

I will use the money to start a foundation for girls in Lucy's name. Bless you!

INT. - JACK'S BEDROOM -EVENING

TV NEWS

Jack turns it off.

GINA

See, getting back with me is good for your career. Oh, I lost the key you gave me. Fell down a subway grate.

JACK

Don't worry about the key.

They kiss. Gina holds up a pair of handcuffs.

GINA

Give me your hands.

Jack jumps out of bed.

JACK

Woe! Hold on there! Last time you handcuffed me you went shopping. No way!

GINA

No worries, lover, I will be here with you the whole time. You're quitting smoking.

JACK

Handcuffed!

GINA

(Broad Smile)

Read it in a book. Helps get your mind off the urges.

JACK

You are crazy. Do you know that?

GINA

This is the deal. In 3 days, I will be leaving on a vacation package to Hawaii. There is a ticket for you, too. Wanna come? You have 3 days to quit smoking.

JACK

I haven't had a cigarette in 2... What did you say? Taking me to Hawaii? How?

GINA

I got lucky at the casino. You can use a little R&R I think, so can I.

JACK

I can't get off work.

GINA

I spoke to Grady. He gave his blessings. There may even be an award and promotion coming your way, soldier.

JACK

You spoke to Grady?

GINA

Are you going to stand there bitching when I just offered you a vacation in Paradise?

Jack

God, do I Love you.

GINA

That's what I wanted to hear. Now, put these on and get back in bed...