

The Warehouse

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EXT. SMALL TOWN OVERHEAD - DAY / EVENING

A small town, townspeople are going about their daily business. A factory on the outskirts of town. Workers are coming and going, and working various jobs. A large warehouse sits in the middle of the property.

FADE OUT:

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Jim sits on a stool at a worktable, reading and checking the clock every so often. It is 1:30 a.m. Jim is waiting for a specific time. The sound of a rake falling in the distance is heard.

Jim looks up from reading and looks around the warehouse. He doesn't notice anything unusual, and resumes reading. A moment later, Jim hears the sounds of power tools turning on and off in the distance.

He puts down his book. He stands up and takes out a flashlight, walking over to where the power tools are located. Approximately halfway there, the power tools turn off.

JIM

Sam, is that you?

Not getting a response, he turns and walks back to the table. The sound of pipes falling off of a shelf. He is startled by this noise and becomes slightly jittery.

He looks around the warehouse using the flashlight.

JIM (CONT'D)

Sam, cut it out will ya?

Receiving no response, he goes back to the table. Once there, he picks up his book again. Picking up where he left off in the book, all the lights in the warehouse go out. Turning in his seat, Jim falls off of his stool. \*

JIM (CONT'D) \*

Shit! What the hell is going on?

He turns on his flashlight and walks over to the wall where the light switches are located. His nerves reflecting in the jumping beam of his flashlight.

JIM (CONT'D) \*

Sam, this isn't funny anymore. Turn the lights back on will ya?

He does not get a response, and starts to walk a little quicker.

JIM (CONT'D)

Sam? Saaammmmm?

\*

He reaches the wall and turns on the lights, visibly relaxing. He starts to turn around and put his flashlight away when suddenly Sam pops out behind Jim.

SAM

(Shouting)

Hey! What are you doing?

A look of relieved annoyance comes over his face and he punches Sam in the shoulder.

JIM

Man, you scared the shit out of me.  
What in the hell do you think  
you're doing?

SAM

Hey man, take it easy. I was just  
messing with you. Jeez, calm down a  
little.

JIM

Calm down? You moron.

SAM

Sorry, I was just trying to give  
you a little excitement. You're  
always complaining about how boring  
this job is.

JIM

(Sarcastically)

Well thanks, that's enough  
excitement for one night thank you  
very much.

SAM

(Laughing)

You're welcome! Anyway, my shift is  
over. I'm going home. You need  
anything before I go?

JIM

No, I'm fine thanks.

Sam turns around and starts to walk to the door of the warehouse. Jim watches him walk away.

SAM  
Ok, don't get too bored!

Laughter.

SAM (CONT'D)  
See ya!

\*

Sam exits, and Jim shakes his head, returning to his table. At the table, he starts to read his book again. He continues to look up at the clock randomly.

FADE OUT:

\*

INT. WAREHOUSE - LATER

Jim looking up, puts down his book. It is 2:00 a.m. Jim stands up and walks out, shutting the warehouse door behind him.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Jim opens the car door and gets in, whistling to himself happily. He drives out of the factory parking lot and gets on the main road.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Jim is driving down the road and looks at his watch. 2:15 a.m. He speeds up and hurries to his destination.

EXT. MICHELLE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

\*

Jim pulls up to the curb outside a home in an upper middle class neighborhood. As he is walking up the sidewalk, he is fixing his hair and straightening his clothes.

He walks up on the porch and rings the doorbell. He waits nervously and starts looking in the front windows of the house. As he is looking in the windows, the front door opens.

A corset and stockings peeking out from a loosely tied robe answer the door. She looks disappointed.

MICHELLE  
You're late. I'd almost given up on you.

JIM  
I'm sorry. Am I too late?

MICHELLE  
No, come here.

She pulls him into a passionate kiss as the door closes behind them.

INT. MICHELLES HOUSE - NIGHT

Clothes are flying off them with passionate kisses as they make their way to the bedroom, and fall on the bed. They slip under the covers and begin to make love.

CUT TO:

EXT. MICHELLES HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

A police car pulls up on the street outside of Michelle's house. Wayne sits inside the car as he looks up at the house. The bedroom light is on in the upstairs bedroom. As Wayne looks up, he sees a silhouette of Jim and Michelle making love.

He turns off the car and steps out closing the door behind him. As he walks up the driveway, he stops behind Jim's vehicle and pulls out his flashlight. He shines the light on the license plate.

He then pulls out a pad of paper and a pen and writes down the license plate number on the paper. He slips the pad back into his pocket and walks back to his police car. He opens the door and gets in.

As he starts the car, he takes one final look up at the bedroom window and shakes his head. Putting the car into gear, he slowly drives off into the night.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jim is sitting on the edge of the bed in his boxers smoking a cigarette. Michelle is lying back on the bed.

MICHELLE  
(breathlessly)  
Wow, what got into you tonight?

Jim shakes his head. Glancing sideways at her voluptuous figure, he turns back to his cigarette.

JIM  
Nothing really, just needed to  
relieve some stress.

MICHELLE  
Stress huh? What are you so  
stressed about?

JIM  
Well this, for one thing. We-this  
should not be happening.

Michelle sits up and hugs Jim from behind.

MICHELLE  
Why not? Are you getting tired of  
me already?

Jim shakes her off gently, looking at his ring finger, and  
the wedding band, turning it.

JIM  
Not at all. It's just, well, what  
about Renee? I am married you  
know.

MICHELLE  
I thought you said you were going  
to leave her?

JIM  
I never said I was going to leave  
her.  
(standing up)  
It's just that our marriage isn't  
working out right now.

MICHELLE  
And I'm not a good enough reason to  
make you want to leave?

JIM  
No, it's not like that. You're  
amazing. It's just that I love my  
kids. I don't want to lose them.  
But if this were to come out...

Michelle pulls Jim around to look at her.

MICHELLE  
Will you at least look at me?  
(hands on his face)  
(MORE)

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Look, I really am starting to fall for you. What about how I feel? Doesn't that count?

JIM

Of course it does. I'm just confused right now. I'm not really sure what I'm going to do.

MICHELLE

Listen, I don't want to pressure you or anything. But, I can't wait around forever for you to make up your mind.

JIM

I know, and I'm really sorry. You deserve better than this.

MICHELLE

Maybe I don't want better. I just want you.

JIM

I know.  
(looks at watch)  
Oh shit, I've got to go.

Jim puts out the cigarette in the ashtray on the bedside table. He locates his clothes and gets dressed.

JIM (CONT'D)

Look, I really am sorry ok? We'll figure this out I promise.

\*

Michelle rolls over on the bed and lies on her stomach. She props her head on her hands.

MICHELLE

That's fine. Just hurry it up will you? I've never had much patience.

Jim leans over to kiss her goodbye.

JIM

I will ok? I'll call you later.

Michelle pouts.

MICHELLE

Ok fine. Thanks for tonight.

JIM  
 (a desirous glance)  
 Anytime.

Jim walks out of the bedroom.

EXT. MICHELLES HOUSE - NIGHT

Jim gets into the car and drives off.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Jim is sitting at the desk reading a book. It is quiet in the warehouse with nothing happening. After a few moments, he starts to nod off. As he tries to fight off sleep, he shakes his head a few times. Finally realizing he is losing the fight, he puts the book down and lies his head on the desk falling asleep.

CUT TO:

EXT. MICHELLES HOUSE - NIGHT

Wayne's police car pulls up outside of Michelle's house. He turns the car off and gets out of the car. He walks up to the front door of the house and rings the doorbell. After a few moments, Michelle answers the door.

She has a big smile on her face, but then realizes it's not who she thought it was. Her smile fades into an expression of normal thought.

MICHELLE  
 Oh hey, what are you doing here?

WAYNE  
 I thought I'd stop by and check on you. You know, see how you're doing.

He has an expression on his face as if he knows that something is going on, but doesn't want to say what it is.

MICHELLE  
 That's really sweet of you to do that. But I'm fine. Thanks.

WAYNE  
 So, who was that over here earlier?



Michelle's expression changes to one of confusion, then anger.

MICHELLE

What are you doing? Spying on me?

Wayne takes a step back and puts up his hands in a calming manner.

WAYNE

No, nothing like that. I was just worried about you that's all. Thought you might be in danger.

MICHELLE

No, I'm perfectly fine.

They both pause and stare at each other for a moment until Wayne breaks the silence.

WAYNE

So, who was it?

MICHELLE

It was Jim. Are you happy now? Look you and I broke up ok? It happens. I've moved on and found somebody else.

WAYNE

I know that, I still just worry about you. Don't want anything to happen to you that's all.

Michelle places a hand on his arm.

MICHELLE

Look, that's really sweet, and I do appreciate it. But what I do from now on is none of your concern ok?

WAYNE

I understand. Look can I come in for a minute?

Michelle pulls the door closer to her as if to protect herself.

MICHELLE

I don't think that's such a good idea. At least not tonight anyway.

WAYNE

Why not?

MICHELLE

I'm fixing to go to bed. It's been  
a long night. Don't you have some  
work to be doing by the way?

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Wayne accepts this.

\*

WAYNE

Yeah, I guess I do. I'll go then.  
Just make sure you lock up.

\*  
\*  
\*

He turns around as Michelle steps in the house and closes the door. Wayne walks up to his car, and gets in. He starts the car and drives away.

\*  
\*  
\*

INT. WAREHOUSE - MORNING

Jim is sleeping peacefully with his head on his book. A loud whistle jerks him awake. He looks at the clock.

It is now 8:00 a.m. Jim's shift is over. Rubbing his face, he stands up and walks out of the warehouse as other workers walk in the door.

EXT. JIM'S HOUSE - DAY

Jim pulls up in the driveway. He unlocks the front door and walks inside and goes upstairs.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Jim opens the door to Tiffanie's room, she is still fast asleep. He closes the door and goes to Blake's room and looks inside. He is also fast asleep. He shuts the door, walks to his bedroom, and enters.

INT. JIM'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jim quietly takes off his clothes and watch. As he slips into bed, Renee rolls over in her sleep and places her arm across him. Jim carefully takes her arm and places it beside him so that she is not touching him. He rolls over on his side and falls asleep, not making any contact with Renee.

INT. JIM'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jim is fast asleep in bed and everything is quiet. Suddenly, Blake jumps on his dad at full speed. Jim pushes Blake off the bed as Blake laughs.

BLAKE  
Dad get up. Dad? Are you awake yet?

Jim grunts in response.

BLAKE (CONT'D) \*  
Come on, you promised you'd play  
catch with me today.

Jim grunts again.

BLAKE (CONT'D) \*  
Dad, come on get up.

Jim suddenly grabs a hold of Blake and starts to tickle him.

BLAKE (CONT'D) \*  
(Laughing)  
Dad stop it! Dad, stop please!

JIM  
(Laughing)  
Ya like it? Huh? Do ya?

BLAKE  
Ok dad. Ok, you win.

JIM  
Of course I win. I always win.

Blake heads for the door.

BLAKE  
I'll be out back. Hurry up!

JIM  
Ok ok. Give me five minutes.

BLAKE  
K.

Blake rushes out the door. Jim gets out of bed and starts getting dressed.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Jim is walking down the hallway. He hears loud music coming from one of the other closed bedroom door. He stops in front of the door and shakes his head. He reaches down and opens the door.

INT. TIFFANIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

As Jim enters the room, Tiffanie is lying on the bed talking on the phone. She turns around and notices her dad standing in the doorway.

TIFFANIE  
(Into the phone)  
Hey, let me call you back. Ok,  
sounds good. Bye.

JIM  
And just who was that?

TIFFANIE  
Hey, Dad, finally awake huh?

JIM  
Yeah, it was a long night at work.  
So, who was that?

TIFFANIE  
Oh, that was John.

JIM  
John? Since when are you talking to  
a John?

Tiffanie rolls her eyes.

TIFFANIE  
Come on, Dad, does it really  
matter? It's not like you care  
anyway.

Jim walks across the room and sits down on the bed by Tiffanie.

JIM  
Whoa! Yes I do care. It does  
matter to me. You know I love you  
sweetie.

TIFFANIE  
I know you do, Dad. But lately  
you've been gone a lot. Either that  
or your sleeping.

JIM  
Look, I know this new job has been  
hard on you guys, but I'm doing the  
best I can here. Ok?

TIFFANIE

Fine, Dad. Just try and pay us a little attention once in a while.

JIM

Ok honey, I promise.

Jim kisses her on the forehead.

JIM (CONT'D)

So, this John guy? How do you know him?

TIFFANIE

Jeez dad, do you always worry so much about everything?

Jim places his arm around Tiffanie.

JIM

Only when it comes to protecting my little girl.

Jim continues to talk to Tiffanie.

FADE TO:

EXT. JIM'S HOUSE - DAY

Jim and Blake are playing catch in the backyard. The backyard is surrounded by woods on all sides.

JIM

Nice throw boy. You're getting to be pretty good.

BLAKE

I know. Hey dad, you think maybe we could go to a game sometime?

JIM

I don't know son, I've been pretty busy with work lately.

BLAKE

Please dad? We never get to do anything together anymore.

JIM

Ok, tell you what. How bout next weekend, we go to a game. Just you and me.

BLAKE  
(Excited)  
Really, do you mean it?

JIM  
Yes, I mean it. Cool deal?

BLAKE  
Yeah, you're the greatest dad!

Jim laughs.

JIM  
I don't know about that, but I do a  
pretty good job huh?

BLAKE  
Yeah, pretty good.

JIM  
Hey now, I thought you said I was  
the greatest?

Blake smiles at his dad.

BLAKE  
You are, but only if you go get me  
something to drink.

JIM  
(sarcastic)  
Oh? The greatest is a servant now?  
(normal)  
Fine, what do you want?

BLAKE  
A coke would be nice.

Jim puts down the glove and starts to walk toward the house.

JIM  
One coke on ice. Coming right up.

BLAKE  
Thanks, but you better hurry. My  
arm's starting to get cooled off.

JIM  
(Sarcastically)  
Yes sir. Right away sir.

BLAKE  
Dad!!

Jim laughs to himself as he enters the house.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Jim walks through the house and goes to a cabinet in the kitchen. He reaches up and grabs a glass as Renee walks into the kitchen.

RENEE

Hey hon, got a second?

JIM

No, I'm busy playing catch with Blake.

RENEE

Jim, this is important. It'll only take a sec.

JIM

(Upset)

Fine, what is it?

Renee sits down at the kitchen table. Jim goes over to another cabinet and grabs a soda.

RENEE

Listen, I was just looking over some of the bills and I noticed that the mortgage hasn't been paid in almost three months now.

\*

JIM

And just what do you want me to do about it?

RENEE

Help me figure something out. We're going to get kicked out soon if we don't make some kind of a payment.

JIM

Oh, I see, and what shall I do? Pull money out of my ass?

RENEE

Stop being such a jerk.

JIM

I'm serious. I'm working as hard as I can. Where am I supposed to come up with the money?

RENEE

I don't know, but obviously this is not working out.

JIM

Gee, ya think?

RENEE

What has gotten into you lately? For the last few months, it seems like you've stopped caring about anything.

JIM

I don't have time for this.

Jim starts to walk away. He walks over to the refrigerator and gets ice. He puts the ice in the glass.

Renee stands up and walks over to him, pulls him around by the arm.

RENEE

Well you better start making time. Your family is falling apart around you and you don't even care.

JIM

(avoiding)  
Yeah, so?

RENEE

How can you talk to me like that? Doesn't our marriage mean anything to you anymore?

JIM

(not entirely truthfully)  
Not really.

RENEE

(Upset)  
And what is that supposed to mean?

JIM

Nothing. Like I said, I just don't have time for this right now.

RENEE

(Angrily)  
Fine, have it your way. When we end up living in a box in an alley somewhere, it'll be your fault. Not mine.



Jim and Renee storm out of the kitchen in opposite directions.

INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Renee is shopping for groceries with Tiffanie. They are walking down the aisle getting items off the shelf.

RENEE

Honey, can you go get some ketchup and mustard for the burgers?

TIFFANIE

Sure mom.

Tiffanie walks down the aisle and turns around the corner. As she does so, Renee continues walking down the aisle and grabbing random items. As she gets to the end of the aisle, she turns the corner.

As she does this, her cart runs into another shoppers cart. When she looks up, the other shopper is Michelle.

RENEE

I'm so sorry. That was my fault.

MICHELLE

Don't worry about it. No harm done.

She looks at Renee with a a slow kind of knowing.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Wait a sec, don't I know you? \*

RENEE

I don't know. Have we met before?

MICHELLE

I don't think so. But I'm sure I know you somehow.

RENEE

Oh, that's strange. I don't remember ever meeting you.

MICHELLE

Oh, ok. Nevermind then.

She starts to push her cart away and so does Renee. Then she remembers who she's talking to and turns around.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

\*

Now I remember. You're Jim's wife right?

RENEE

You know my husband?

MICHELLE

Yeah, I've met him a couple times. He's the security guard at the metal works right?

RENEE

That's him.

MICHELLE

Ok, that's how I know you. You know he talks about you all the time.

RENEE

He does?

MICHELLE

Yeah, you sure are a lucky woman, you know that?

RENEE

Thank you, I think.

MICHELLE

You're welcome. I'll see you around.

RENEE

It was nice meeting you. What was your name again?

MICHELLE

Michelle.

RENEE

Ok, I'll tell Jim you said hi.

MICHELLE

Ok. See you around.

Michelle and Renee walk away in separate directions.