## DR. SOAPY

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EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF SMALL TOWN OF SOMERVILLE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA -- DAY

Sunny skies, green grass, bucolic.

Town limits sign reads:

Somerville, California

Population 35,000

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS DOJO -- DAY

Plate glass window reveals the interior of a martial arts dojo. Sign above the plate glass reads:

Martial Arts for the Whole Family

INT. MARTIAL ARTS DOJO -- DAY

Nine high-school-age boys and girls barefooted and dressed in heavy white uniforms -- judo gis -- stand on floor mats of a mirrored room.

The instructor -- SENSEI -- demonstrates a throw on one student.

Off to one side stands the sole adult student, JANE PARKWAY, an African-American woman in her late 30s (think Queen Latifah). Her white gi belt stretches across her ample middle.

Jane watches apprehensively as the sensei demonstrates the technique.

SENSEI

Everybody pair up now.

As the students pair up, Jane sidles up to her 15-year-old daughter ELLEN PARKWAY, who has a no-nonsense aura. Ellen inches away.

ELLEN

Mom, you know, find someone else.

JANE

I trust you.

ELLEN

Talk about overprotective, You know, you're the only parent.

I'm the on-mat doctor.

Seventeen-year-old ALEX PARKWAY, confident, good-looking, joins Ellen and Jane.

ALEX

Mom, I'll, like, be your partner.

JANE

You'll throw me too hard.

Alex gives his mother the "look."

Seventeen-year-old LISA, with a smile, comes up to Jane.

LISA

I'll be your partner, Dr. Parkway. If I'm hurt I can get free medical care.

Jane grips the collar of Lisa's gi and throws Lisa to the mat.

Then Lisa and Jane change places. Lisa grips Jane's gi collar and with much effort throws Jane to the ground.

Jane falls awkwardly. The sensei rushes up and helps her to a standing position.

SENSET

Necessary to keep your head tucked.

He demonstrates tucking his head.

Jane watches wide-eyed.

SENSEI (CONT'D)

Very simple procedure.

JANE

Diagnosing appendicitis is a simple procedure.

SENSEI

Perhaps an easier martial art. Tai chi?

Jane waves the idea away.

JANE

Old folks do tai chi.

Another student falls awkwardly and the sensei rushes over to check on that student.

Lisa turns to Jane and gives her the thumbs up.

LISA

Dr. Parkway, you rock.

JANE

Tell that to my kids.

INT. ITALIAN RESTAURANT -- DAY

Jane, Alex and Ellen, now all dressed in jeans and shirts, eat pasta.

ELLEN

Mom, you know, you did not exercise enough to eat all these crabs.

JANE

I am perfectly aware of how many crab calories I'm consuming. And I've earned every last one.

Alex waves his fork in his mom's direction.

ALEX

Harvard's early action decisions will be out, like, within a day or so.

Jane stops eating.

JANE

Look, Alex, I agreed for you to apply early action to Harvard because it's not binding.

ALEX

I could have applied early decision to, like, another Ivy and had it binding.

Jane ignores him.

JANE

You know with the decline in medical insurance payments to doctors I just can't afford Harvard.

She raises another forkful of pasta halfway to her mouth.

JANE (CONT'D)

Unless you get a terrific financial aid package -- it's junior college for two years and then transfer to a state university.

Ellen frowns at Jane.

ELLEN

You took out loans, you know, for your college and med school tuition.

JANE

And it took me 20 years to pay off those loans. I won't let you or Alex do that to yourselves.

ALEX

Mom, isn't there anything we can do if I don't, like, get enough financial aid?

JANE

Resurrecting your father from his grave and asking him to help out?

ELLEN

Gross.

JANE

Maybe I could get on "Temptation Wars."

ELLEN

You know about "Temptation Wars"?

JANE

I know what Tivo records for you.

ALEX

To be on that show you need, like, a boyfriend to possibly cheat on.

JANE

I haven't had a date since ...

ELLEN

... the time you ...

JANE

I'm too old to be jiggy.

Her kids wince at the word.

JANE (CONT'D)

And even if I weren't too old, how does being on "Temptation Wars" put coin in the Parkway family coffers?

ALEX

You could sell your story to the National Enquirer -- like the oldest woman on "Temptation Wars." The Oedipus complex thing.

The WAITRESS interrupts this scintillating dinner conversation.

WAITRESS

Any dessert?

Jane's expression says it all -- dessert is the icing on any meal.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF CHARLES' APARTMENT -- EVENING

A neat but essentially sterile room. A "Temptation Wars" rerun plays on the mammoth flat-screen television.

Yawma beauty care products are stacked neatly on the coffee table.

A masculine hand comes into view and presses the playback button on the telephone answering machine.

WOMAN'S VOICE (V.O.) Charles, I sure need more of that floor cleaning goop. My in-laws are hauling themselves over here tomorrow night for chow.

The hand presses the next message.

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.)

Charles, hey good buddy. How's about bringing me another can of that whatchamacallit? It worked real well on that humdinger the dog did on the wife's new rug.

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jane in a tailored navy blue pants suit sits at her desk facing a seated middle-aged patient, PATTY. Jane writes out a prescription slip.

PATTY

Wait till my husband finds out it's not all in my head.

JANE

Patty, you know how men are. They get ahold of these ideas and you just can't shake them out.

PATTY

Dr. Parkway, you don't have to worry about what a husband thinks. Must free up your life.

Jane says nothing. She hands Patty the prescription slip.

JANE

Keep taking your thyroid medication. You don't need to deal with body temperature swings on top of everything else.

Patty nods as she leaves the room.

As soon as Patty has left TERESA, the receptionist/office manager, enters Jane' office carrying an Excel sheet printout.

**TERESA** 

Here's this month's bad news. The insurance cap payments barely cover the office expenses and salaries, let alone provide you enough to send Alex off to junior college.

JANE

I have to start getting patients with their own insurance that pays well. These cap plans will be the ruin of me.

Jane looks at the figures.

JANE (CONT'D)

Oh, Teresa, he's going to be so disappointed if he gets accepted.

TERESA

Maybe you'll get a good financial aid package. "A penny saved is a penny earned."

Jane shakes her head.

Everyone thinks doctors are rich -- Harvard is never going to give us enough financial aid.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE -- EVENING

Alex watches a rerun of "Temptation Wars" as Jane enters the house. He snaps off the television.

ALEX

Good news, Mom.

JANE

You did or did not get into Harvard?

ALEX

No word yet. The good news is, like, I've arranged a blind date for you.

JANE

Why would I want a blind date?

ALEX

You can't get on "Temptation Wars" unless you have a steady boyfriend. First step, like, is to get a steady boyfriend.

Jane sings from the the song "Piano Lesson" in the musical MUSIC MAN.

JANE

"I have my standards where men are concerned / and I have no intention ..."

Alex grins and joins in.

ALEX

"I know all about your standards / And if you don't mind my sayin' so / There's not a man alive / Who could hope to measure up ..."

Jane holds up her hand to stop Alex.

**JANE** 

Enough.

ALEX

I know a blind date is not, like, romantic as in those old musicals you love.

And where did you find this blind date?

ALEX

On the internet.

Jane glares at him.

ALEX (CONT'D)

It's okay -- I checked out his bona fides.

Jane looks around the room as if expecting the blind date to pop out from behind the sofa.

JANE

Where's Ellen?

 $\mathsf{ALEX}$ 

She's upstairs picking out, like, an outfit for you to wear tonight.

**JANE** 

Tonight?

ALEX

Just following what Teresa says is old Ben Franklin's advice: Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today.

JANE

If Ben Franklin said that it was eons before internet blind dating. Ever heard the expression "Don't put the cart before the horse"?

ALEX

What's that mean?

Jane shrugs her shoulders.

INT. JANE'S BEDROOM -- EVENING

Not a Martha Stewart room. More the lair of a workaholic. Book and papers lie strewn on the unmade bed. Clothes decorate a couple of chairs.

From a CD player comes the strains of the same song "Piano Lesson" from MUSIC MAN.

Jane in high heels stands in front of a full-length mirror checking out a low-cut red dress obviously picked by Ellen.

ELLEN

You look good, Mom.

JANE

Like an overripe tomato trying to pretend its shelf date is still current.

ELLEN

Tonight could change your life, you know.

Jane can't help smiling as Ellen dances around the room singing words from Monty Python's movie LIFE OF BRIAN.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

"Always look on the bright side of life  $\dots$ "

Jane throws a pillow at her. Then Jane sings from the musical SOUTH PACIFIC.

JANE

"They call me a bright-eyed optimist ..."

Ellen laughs and joins hands with Jane and they dance around the room.

The doorbell rings.

Jane stops dancing.

JANE (CONT'D)

Find something else for me to wear. Now!

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE

Alex opens the door to CHARLES DENNING (it's his hand that we saw earlier).

Charles is an attractive man in his 40s dressed in chinos and a plaid shirt (think Woody Harelson). In his hands he holds an Yawma kitchen cleaning product.

CHARLES

I'm Charles Denning -- is my date ready?

ALEX

I'm Alex. My younger sister Ellen, like, is upstairs putting the finishing touches on Mom's outfit.

Alex eyes the Yawma product in Charles' hands.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Hope you're taking her to a good restaurant.

Charles has caught the look.

CHARLES

My mama taught me always to bring a gift to a gal when you come calling. This cleaner is amazing and I wanted to share its bounty.

Alex looks around at the messy living room.

ALEX

Mom isn't, like, into neatness. But I'm sure she'll appreciate your ....

They both turn as Ellen bounces down the steps two at a time.

ELLEN

I'm Ellen. What's that in your hands?

ALEX

He was taught always to ...

CHARLES

I'm an Yawma salesman.

ELLEN

For real? Got any good stuff, you know, for me?

CHARLES

How about kitchen counters that look as shiny as a new penny?

ELLEN

I meant ...

Now Jane descends the stairs and all three turn to look at the get-up that Ellen has concocted for her mother.

Jane wears a tight skirt, the high heels, and a suede jacket with fringe down the sleeves. She's not too steady on the heels.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

This is our mother, Jane Parkway. She and I, you know, wear the same shoe size.

Jane wobbles over to Charles and extends her hand to shake. He has to transfer the Yawma product to his left hand to shake with his right hand.

CHARLES

I brought you a little gift just like my mama taught me.

He thrusts the Yawma product into her hand.

JANE

Would you recommend it for cleaning my doctor's offices?

CHARLES

What doctor might that be?

JANE

Me.

CHARLES

You're a gal doctor?

Jane looks at Alex.

JANE

Mr. Matchmaker! Did you leave out all the pertinent details?

ALEX

Aw, Mom. People are, like, always scared 'cause you're a doctor. I wanted Charles to meet you, like, in your natural habitat.

Jane looks around at the messy room and shakes her head.

JANE

Now if you two will excuse us, we'll set off and see what other little lies have been exchanged.

INT. ROY ROGERS RESTAURANT -- EVENING

Jane and Charles sit at a table with their meals in front of them. Her ludicrous outfit elicits stares from other diners but Jane ignores them.

JANE

You eat here often?

CHARLES

It is the number one place in town to pick up prospects.

You pick up women here?

CHARLES

No, no. Prospects to sell Yawma products for me.

**JANE** 

You're into pyramid schemes?

CHARLES

It is not a pyramid scheme! As an Yawma IBO -- Independent Business Owner -- I sponsor other people -- give them the chance to make bucketfuls of money.

JANE

Sounds like a pyramid scheme.

CHARLES

The Yawma products are as good as it gets -- I satisfy all my customers.

JANE

I bet you do. All women?

CHARLES

Mostly of the female persuasion.

JANE

Then why did you need to be fixed up through internet dating?

CHARLES

I am more than an Yawma salesman. I have other parts of me that I would like to share with a gal. And the gals I meet on the Yawma circuit don't ..

JANE

Not one intellectual in the bunch? I don't figure you as an egghead.

CHARLES

I have a collection of etchings ...

JANE

Of course you do.

CHARLES

... by Whistler.

The artist who painted his mother in a rocking chair? I didn't know he was into nude women too.

CHARLES

My etchings are quite respectable.

JANE

Scantily clad women?

CHARLES

He etched buildings, sailboats, a heap load of things. Mine's a mighty small collection -- don't have the ready money to keep up with the big guns.

JANE

Big collectors? Your home decorated with the etchings?

CHARLES

Little lady ...

Jane looks at him as if he's crazy.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

... you're welcome to come see for yourself.

JANE

I have a good imagination.

CHARLES

Etchings are mighty delicate. They can't be getting all exposed to light. They bed down in their own special drawers.

JANE

What a bummer. Can't even hang them on your walls.

CHARLES

I take them out and give them awhirl every so often.

JANE

"Look but don't touch."

She shoots him a significant look.

INT. OUTSIDE JANE'S HOUSE

Jane and Charles stand at the front door.

CHARLES

I'd be mighty glad to see you again.

Jane edges towards opening the door.

JANE

I'm not about to start selling Yawma products for you.

CHARLES

I'm not always trolling for new prospects. We could shake a leg ...

Jane grasps the door knob.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

... and go bowling.

Her hand relaxes somewhat on the door knob.

JANE

Bowling? I've never bowled.

CHARLES

It's mighty easy. You just give a heave ho and roll that ball down the lane.

Jane checks his expression to see if he's serious. He is.

JANE

Have your office call my office.

She shakes his hand and skedaddles into the house before he can reply.

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jane in another tailored pants suit sits at her desk reading a medical text. Alex comes bursting into the room holding a large envelope.

ALEX

I got in! I got in! It's a thick envelope.

JANE

And the financial aid package?

ALEX

Like only \$4,000.

**JANE** 

That leaves over \$36,000 a year for us to come up with.

She walks over to Alex and puts her arms around him.

JANE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, Alex. There is no way on this earth that we can do this.

ALEX

I could, like, get a job after school.

JANE

Minimum wage for 10 or 20 hours a week isn't going to fill the gap.

ALEX

Why don't you sell Yawma products?

Jane gives him a look.

JANE

I must need my ears cleaned.

ALEX

I did some research online after you and Charles left last night. Yawma salesmen can make quite a good annual income. You could, like, moonlight.

Jane is speechless, an unusual state for her.

ALEX (CONT'D)

And Ellen and I could help you.

JANE

I went to medical school and paid my student loans for 20 years to sell Yawma products like that hick you set me up with last night?

ALEX

He wasn't so bad looking. And he was definitely interested in you.

JANE

Only because of the circus freak outfit your sister rigged up for me.

She smiles.

JANE (CONT'D)

Probably thought I was Annie Oakley.

ALEX

He could sponsor you. And you could show him up -- just like Annie Oakley. Outdo his record.

Alex sings from the musical ANNIE GET YOUR GUN:

ALEX (CONT'D)

"Anything you can do I can do better."

Jane can't help joining in.

JANE

"I can do anything better than you."

She laughs.

JANE (CONT'D)

How would patients trust a doctor who sells Yawma products on the side?

ALEX

Actually, there's precedence. I found this article in The Wall Street Journal archives about, like, doctors who sell Yawma products on the side. There's even a name for such doctors -- Dr. Soapy.

JANE

Dr. Soapy! I've stepped through into an alternate universe. Any minute I'm going to awake safely back in my doctor's office ....

ALEX

With your patients whose medical insurance pays, like, next to nothing.

JANE

It's a pyramid scheme!

INT. EXAMINING ROOM

An older man, THOMAS, sits on the patient table as Jane checks his blood pressure.

THOMAS

Heard your son got into Harvard. You must be proud.

How'd you hear so fast?

THOMAS

My grandson is in high school with your son.

JANE

My son's not going.

THOMAS

Going to Harvard is like getting your ticket punched for life.

JANE

Can't afford it.

THOMAS

A doctor can't afford to send her son to Harvard?

JANE

Not this doctor. Not all doctors.

THOMAS

Isn't there something you can do so he can go?

JANE

Rob a bank?

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE

Teresa and Jane sit here jawing.

TERESA

You could sell your house.

JANE

And live where? In my office?

TERESA

You could write your memoirs.

JANE

No one is interested in the memoirs of a small-town doctor.

TERESA

We can forget about your selling your body.

JANE

And what's wrong with my body for my age?

TERESA

Touchy are we?

JANE

Yawma products. Do you use Yawma products?

Teresa shakes her head, then adds:

TERESA

My sister-in-law does. Always trying to get me to buy from her.

JANE

And why don't you?

TERESA

Don't trust her. She wouldn't know a harmful ingredient from a beneficial one if it bit her ...

JANE

You're worried about the validity of the product?

TERESA

I'd only buy from someone I trusted to know what the hell she was selling.

JANE

How about from me?

INT. ITALIAN RESTAURANT -- EVENING

This is the same restaurant where Jane ate with her children. Now she sits here with Charles.

This time Jane wears a dress appropriate for her age and figure. Obviously Ellen hasn't been allowed to concoct another "costume."

JANE

I ... I've had time to think since
we met.

CHARLES

You now want to come over and see my etchings?

JANE

I want to be an Yawma salesman.

Charles leans back in his chair.

CHARLES

Anyone can't just be an Yawma salesman. You have to be sponsored by someone already in the program.

JANE

You can sponsor me.

CHARLES

Now hold on there. I have my reputation to think of. I can't sponsor you unless I think you'd be a topnotch salesman.

JANE

I'd be a good salesman. People would believe products recommended by a doctor.

CHARLES

I'll need to sleep on this.

JANE

If I looked at your etchings would that help?

INT. LIVING ROOM OF CHARLES' APARTMENT

Jane watches Charles pull out a drawer from a file chest. He bends over the open drawer and lovingly lifts up an etching from between two pieces of specially treated preservative paper.

CHARLES

Isn't she a beaut?

JANE

She? It's a picture of a building.

CHARLES

"She" refers to the picture itself.

Charles carefully places the etching back between the two pieces of preservative paper. Then he turns to Jane.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Art doesn't give you a kick?

JANE

Not unless I had a Rembrandt I could sell.

Charles sighs, resigned to Jane's one-topic focus.

CHARLES

Here's what you have to do to be a Yawma salesman ...

EXT. PARKING LOT OUTSIDE AN OFFICE BUILDING -- DAY

Jane pulls her Volvo SUV into the parking lot and looks for a parking space.

She spies a lone spot and heads for it.

Just as she is about to pull her car into the spot, an old Mazda Miata zips into the place.

INT. JANE'S CAR

Jane is pissed. She's about to let loose with some choice words when the DRIVER of the Mazda approaches Jane's driver's window. He motions for her to roll the window down.

Jane rolls down her window and takes a good look at him -- he's in his mid 40s and gorgeous in a sexy way.

EXT. PARKING LOT OUTSIDE AN OFFICE BUILDING

The driver flashes a radiant smile at Jane. He speaks somewhat formal English with an Hispanic accent.

DRIVER

Please accept my apologies regarding the parking space. I did not see you waiting.

Jane is so disarmed all she can do is smile back.

EXT. STREET ALONGSIDE PARKING LOT

Jane parks her car in a street spot and walks back towards the office building.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

Jane enters the conference room and sees that all 10 chairs around the table are taken.

Suddenly a man with his back to her stands up and turns towards her. This is MANUEL GARCIA (think Antonio Banderas) -- the driver of the Mazda!

MANUEL

I'm Manuel Garcia. Please take my seat -- I owe you a spot.

Another one of his smiles almost makes her forget what she's here for.

She manages to pull her self-respect around her shoulders and take his vacated seat.

He goes out of the room in search of another chair.

At this moment CATHERINE CHEN enters the room. She's in her 40s and wears a tailored dress suit. She smiles at everyone.

CATHERINE CHEN

Welcome to your first training session for selling Yawma products. You are about to join the number one "multilevel" sales force in the country.

As she speaks, Manuel returns to the room with a folding chair and places it behind and to the right of Jane's chair.

Jane watches him sit down in the chair and flash her another smile.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM -- LATER

It's clear that time has passed. Promotional materials are spread across the conference table.

CATHERINE CHEN

Now this face cream has ingredients that reverse the effects of aging and ...

Jane's hand shoots up. From the look that the instructor gives Jane, we can tell this is not the first or second time Jane has interrupted.

The instructor nods at Jane.

JANE

How can Yawma make that claim? Scientific studies have shown that there is no provable treatment to reverse the ...

CATHERINE CHEN

Ms. Parkway ...

JANE

Dr. Parkway.

CATHERINE CHEN

DOCTOR Parkway.

CATHERINE CHEN (CONT'D)

If you don't stop interrupting me you are going to flunk Yawma school. And that means you won't be certified as a Yawma salesperson.

Jane nods her understanding, then scribbles "Harvard" all over the piece of paper in front of her.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM -- LATER

More time has passed. The meeting is breaking up and the new "recruits" are each leaving the meeting bearing two huge shopping bags of their initial products.

Jane struggles to carry her two bags out of the conference room while Manuel looks after her. The expression on his face is unreadable.

EXT. PARKING LOT OUTSIDE AN OFFICE BUILDING

Jane stands at the end of the parking lot "resting" her load on the ground. She looks down the street to where her car is parked. There's still a considerable distance to tote the bags.

Manuel approaches his car and plops his two bags into the passenger seat. Then he opens the driver's door to get into his car.

Jane turns around to watch him.

JANE

You were such a gentleman when you offered me your seat in the meeting. You can't be a gentleman now and help me carry these bags to my car?

He hops into his car and slams the door before replying.

MANUEL

Now we're in competition -- may the best man win!

And he backs his car out of the parking spot and he's off.

Jane stares after the disappearing car. Then slowly she picks up her two bags and trudges off down the street.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE

Jane enters the house lugging the two bags. Ellen turns around from watching the DVD movie BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE and we catch just a glimpse of Queen Latifah in a scene.

ELLEN

Where've you been?

JANE

Hey, isn't that usually the mother's line?

Ellen gestures at the movie.

ELLEN

If you could shake your booty ...

Jane looks shocked at this expression.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

... like Queen Latifah you would have the money for Harvard. (beat) You know, you do look like her. Too bad you're not her.

Jane draws herself up into a dignified pose.

JANE

I have found another way to make money for Alex's Harvard tuition.

ELLEN

Nothing embarrassing such as moonlighting as a stripper?

Now Jane laughs.

JANE

Tell Alex to come down from his room.

Ellen dials a number on her cell and speaks into the phone.

ELLEN

Come downstairs. Mom wants you.

Ellen ends the call.

JANE

You couldn't go upstairs and tell him?

ELLEN

I let my fingers do the walking.

Alex comes bounding down the stairs. Jane speaks to him as he clears the last step.

JANE

You must really want to go to Harvard -- you came downstairs the first time you were asked.

Alex grins.

ALEX

What's up?

JANE

Sit down, kids.

Jane sits on an armchair and gestures the kids to the facing sofa.

JANE (CONT'D)

I've just become a part-time Yawma salesperson.

ALEX

Yes!

ELLEN

You're going to be one of those pesky people that try to sell bath soaps and floor wax and sh ... stuff?

JANE

There are some very beneficial products.

The kids look a question at her.

JANE (CONT'D)

Such as a face cream that reverses the aging process.

ELLEN

Mom, you know, there's no such thing.

JANE

What I believe and what Yawma believes are two different things.

ALEX

Then, like, is this going to be hard for you to do?

It's that or you can kiss Harvard good-bye -- and attend junior college and live at home.

ELLEN

I want him out of here.

Alex stands up and pumps his mother's hand.

ALEX

Welcome home, Dr. Soapy.

Alex turns to rebound up the stairs.

JANE

Alex, one more thing ...

Alex turns back to his mother.

JANE (CONT'D)

I'm going to have to sneak around to do this.

ALEX

It's an undercover operation?

JANE

The Somerville County Medical Association probably won't approve. We can't let the association's board members find out. (Beat) All those old white men would love an excuse to take away my medical license.

Ellen stands up and kisses her mother.

ELLEN

We'll keep your secret. But, you know, it might cost you. There's the cutest skirt at ...

ALEX

Ellen! Keep your eye on the ball --money for me to go to Harvard so I'll leave the nest and you'll be, like, an only child.

Ellen pumps her arm.

ELLEN

Yeah!

Jane looks at the kids. What has she wrought?

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- MORNING

Jane sits at her desk while Teresa walks toward the door as if they have just finished a conversation.

JANE

Teresa, one more thing. (Beat) Those two bags I left in the waiting room. Could you make room in my cabinet

Jane gestures behind her.

JANE (CONT'D)

... for the products?

**TERESA** 

What products?

JANE

I would never do this unless I were desperate. And you of all people know ...

TERESA

Tell me you didn't sign up to be an Yawma rep?

JANE

I can't let Alex down.

Teresa walks toward the door shaking her head. Then she turns back to Jane.

TERESA

If the Somerville County Medical Association finds out ...

JANE

This is an undercover operation.

Those old farts never need to know.

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- LATER

MARTIN, an 86-year-old, sits across from Jane.

MARTIN

Dr. Parkway, my hemorrhoids are hurting something terrible.

Jane reaches behind her and takes a Yawma container out of her cabinet. She holds it up to Martin.

Maybe you should consider trying Yawma's soft skin products.

MARTIN

Will it help my sore butt?

JANE

Maybe not. But you'll smell better.

EXT. PARKING LOT OF JANE'S OFFICE BUILDING -- LATER

Jane walks towards her car when Alex and Ellen appear.

Jane jumps as she is startled.

JANE

What are you two doing?

ELLEN

You told us Yawma was an undercover operation. We're meeting away from possible microphones.

Jane shoots Ellen a look.

ALEX

We've got an idea to help you sell products.

ELLEN

Alex could make a video for YouTube of you talking about, you know, how great Yawma's products are.

JANE

The whole world will know what I'm doing.

ALEX

Only, like, young people go on YouTube -- so the old white male docs won't find out.

JANE

If only young people go on YouTube, why will they be interested in Yawma products?

ALEX

We'll promote the ones for young people ...

ELLEN

... skin cream, cosmetics.

JANE

No, no, no. I have to keep some dignity.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM OF LOCAL HOSPITAL -- DAY

Jane stands over a 35-year-old patient KATHY HALL sitting in a wheelchair and flanked by a NURSE. Jane writes in a chart when her cell phone rings.

She answers it, earning a dirty look from the nurse.

JANE

Mrs. Johnson, I'll be there as soon as I can. I was called away to admit a patient to the hospital.

Jane hangs up and continues to write in the chart.

KATHY HALL

Someone else have an emergency?

JANE

Not as serious as yours.

Jane turns back to the nurse.

JANE (CONT'D)

The surgeon will be here soon for Mrs. Hall's appendectomy.

And with that Jane pats Kathy Hall on the shoulder and skedaddles out of the emergency room.

EXT. OUTSIDE OLD HOUSE -- DAY

Jane drives up to the Johnson house, her car wheels screeching.

She jumps out of the car, toting a bag, and dashes up to the front door.

She rings the doorbell and gets no response.

Then she hears laughter coming from around the back of the house.

Jane strides back down the steps and takes off around the house.

EXT. BACK OF OLD HOUSE -- DAY

Jane charges around a corner of the house to find Manuel "beautifying" 70-year-old MRS. JOHNSON on the back porch.

Jane turns on Manuel.

JANE

What are you doing? She's my client -- I had an appointment with her.

MANUEL

All's fair in business. I happened to knock on her door when she was expecting you.

MRS. JOHNSON

And he was so nice to fill in for you.

Jane glares at Manuel.

**JANE** 

Fill in? I get to write up the order?

MANUEL

I've already done that. Now I work on Mrs. Johnson to make her beautiful.

Jane opens her mouth to respond, then whirls around and stalks off.

At that exact moment her cell rings. She listens briefly and replies.

JANE

I'll be right there.

EXT. FRONT OF OLD HOUSE

Jane jumps in her car and backs up at top speed.

The mud from the driveway catches her wheels and she can't get any traction.

She storms out of the car and runs back around the house.

EXT. BACK OF OLD HOUSE

Jane rushes up to Manuel.

JANE

Mrs. Johnson will have to wait for her "extreme make-over."

JANE (CONT'D)

I need you to drive me to the hospital NOW!

MANUEL

You've got a car.

JANE

It's stuck in the mud and there's a medical emergency.

INT. MANUEL'S CAR

Manuel drives and Jane drums her hands on her purse. Neither says a word.

EXT. OUTSIDE EMERGENCY ROOM ENTRANCE

Jane jumps out of the car and rushes into the building.

Manuel can't help following behind her -- he wants to know what's going on.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM OF LOCAL HOSPITAL

The same nurse from before intercepts Jane.

Manuel stands off to the side although he can hear the conversation.

NURSE

Mrs. Hall is in ICU. She was revived on the operating table.

JANE

How long was she out?

NURSE

Long enough.

JANE

And why did she stop breathing?

NURSE

The anesthesiologist says there was nothing wrong with the meds he administered. He and the surgeon think maybe she had a weak heart.

JANE

No family history.

INT. HALL OUTSIDE ICU

Manuel stands at the glass window watching Jane staring down at the comatose woman.

Jane looks up and sees Manuel outside the window. Her facial expression doesn't change.

Manuel walks away, leaving Jane there by herself.

EXT. OUTSIDE EMERGENCY ROOM ENTRANCE

Jane looks out at the parking lot -- realizes she doesn't have a car. She calls Charles on her cell.

JANE

Charles, I'm not sure I can sell Yawma products. I ... (Beat) Bowling! (Beat) Okay, okay, I remember. But I don't have a car.

EXT. OUTSIDE EMERGENCY ROOM ENTRANCE -- LATER

Charles drives up in his car and Jane gets in.

INT. CHARLES CAR

Charles drives away with Jane in the passenger seat.

CHARLES

What happened to your car?

JANE

It got stuck in the mud at a sales call. I had to leave it when I got a call from the hospital.

CHARLES

An emergency? What for?

Jane doesn't reply.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Bowling will relax you. And then I'll help rescue your car.

JANE

Remember, I don't know how to bowl.

Charles flashes her his "seductive" look.

CHARLES

I'm a great teacher.

Jane shakes her head.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY

Jane stands poised at the end of the lane with a bowling ball in her right hand and wearing rental bowling shoes.

Charles in his own bowling shoes stands next to her with his arms around her shoulders. He moves her arms to demonstrate how she should swing the ball before releasing it.

He steps back and she tries to imitate the instructions. She releases the ball ... and it slides into the gutter.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY -- LATER

Jane takes off her bowling shoes and puts on her street shoes. Charles puts his own bowling shoes away in a special bag.

CHARLES

Want did you think? Fun game, isn't it?

Jane hesitates.

JANE

My Yawma competition is getting the better of me.

CHARLES

What competition would that be?

JANE

Manuel Garcia? Know him?

CHARLES

I sponsored him too.

JANE

Why would you do that?

CHARLES

The more salespeople I sponsor, the better for me.

JANE

It is a pyramid scheme.

Charles ignores the bait.

CHARLES

What did he do to you?

Stole a client after I made an appointment with her.

CHARLES

There are plenty of clients to go around.

Jane shakes her head.

JANE

I'm not getting lots of bites off my bait.

CHARLES

What bait would that be?

He casts her his "seductive" look.

Jane ignores this and walks off towards outer doors of the bowling alley.

The last thing she needs right now is to deal with this "attention."

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- DAY

Teresa stands facing Jane at her desk.

TERESA

Remember you have jury duty tomorrow. I've scheduled appointments at 5 after the court closes for the day.

JANE

Jury duty! I wanted to make Yawma sales calls after 5 tomorrow.

TERESA

Make them while at court. Maybe some of the other jurors need cleaning supplies.

JANE

If I give away free samples is that considered bribing a judge?

INT. JURORS ROOM -- MORNING

Jane sits with the other jurors, all bored and waiting to see if they'll be called.

Jane turns to a MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN sitting next to her.

Your hands look like they could use some loving care.

MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN

Is that a pick-up line?

**JANE** 

Hell no. I'm a Yawma salesperson. I thought hand cream might be a good bet for you.

MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN

I've used the same hand cream for 30 years. Not going to change now.

JANE

Even if the cream isn't working?

INT. COURTROOM -- MORNING

Jane sits in the jury box as the potential jurors are undergoing *voir dire*. The JUDGE is asking the preliminary questions.

JUDGE

Juror #3, what is your profession?

Juror #3 is Jane.

JANE

I'm a doctor.

JUDGE

What kind of a doctor?

JANE

Family medicine.

JUDGE

As you heard me say, this is a fraudulent business practices case. Do you think your experience practicing as a doctor would unfairly influence your opinion in this case.

JANE

No, not in my medical practice. But in my ...

Jane catches herself just in time before she says Yawma practice.

JUDGE

Yes?

JANE

Nothing, Your Honor.

INT. JURORS ROOM -- AFTERNOON

Jane walks in and hands her dismissal sheet to the clerk.

Then she uses her cell phone to call Teresa.

JANE

I was dismissed by the People. I think the prosecutor didn't appreciate that I was taking notes on the jury selection.

TERESA (V.O.)

Why were you taking notes on the jurors?

JANE

I was making my Yawma reorder list.

TERESA

A Manual Garcia called. He said you know him. He wanted to know if you could have dinner with him tonight?

JANE

Dinner? Tell him I don't break bread with the enemy.

EXT. PARKING LOT OF JANE'S OFFICE BUILDING -- EVENING

Jane approaches her car and spots Manuel leaning against it.

MANUEL

You refused my dinner invitation.

JANE

Did my office manager tell you I don't eat with the enemy?

MANUEL

She said you were busy.

JANE

Permanently busy.

MANUEL

I owe you an apology.

You probably want to sneak a peek at my date book.

MANUEL

You can lock up your date book in your car.

Jane looks around.

JANE

You have an accomplice who picks car locks?

Manuel spreads his hands out, turns them upside down.

MANUEL

I am not hiding anything. I wish to spend time with a lovely lady.

**JANE** 

You can spend time repaying me for that sale you stole.

Manuel smiles.

MANUEL

If not dinner, I would be delighted to escort you to square dancing.

Jane looks at him in disbelief.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

A former student made the introduction to me of this dance form.

Jane shakes her head.

JANE

Not in this lifetime.

And Jane yanks her car door open, slides into the car, and turns on the ignition.

She pulls out of her parking spot as Manuel watches her. Believe it or not, he's smiling at her rebuff.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF SATIN HOUSEHOLD -- EVENING

Jane sits alone in a room cluttered with baby equipment -- playpen, toys, bouncy seat. The Yawma products are spread out on the coffee table in front of her.

A woman in her late 20s, LENORA SATIN, tiptoes back into the room.

LENORA

The baby's finally asleep. Now I can pay attention to what you're saying.

Jane reaches out her hand to pick up a product just as her cell phone rings. Lenora gives Jane a sharp look -- Lenora doesn't want the baby to wake.

Jane grabs for her cell and gets it before it rings a second time. She listens before replying.

JANE

I'll be there in five minutes.

She hangs up the cell and speaks to Lenora.

JANE (CONT'D)

An emergency at the hospital. I'll be back for my products later.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF SATIN HOUSEHOLD -- NIGHT

Jane walks up the front steps. The outside light is on but no other lights are on in the house.

She softly knocks at the door so as not to wake the baby. No one comes to the door.

EXT. SIDE OF THE SATIN HOUSEHOLD -- NIGHT

Jane carefully raises up a window. She uses her hands to pull herself up and wiggles into the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF SATIN HOUSEHOLD

Jane picks herself up from the floor and stuffs the Yawma products into her bag. Then she tiptoes back to the window.

Jane drops the bag out the window. Then she sits on the window ledge with her legs dangling outside.

EXT. SIDE OF THE SATIN HOUSEHOLD

As Jane drops to the ground -- she finds herself in the glare of a policeman's flashlight.

INT. NIGHT COURT -- NIGHT

Jane faces a MAGISTRATE.

I was just retrieving some ... things that I left there earlier in the evening.

MAGISTRATE

You didn't take the things with you then?

JANE

I was called to the hospital for an emergency. A matter of life-and-death. I didn't want to waste a moment gathering up my ... things.

MAGISTRATE

What kind of things?

Jane looks around at the other people in the room.

JANE

Can I have a sidebar, please?

MAGISTRATE

Your "things" were that personal?

JANE

Yes, sir.

INT. NIGHT COURT -- LATER

Jane shakes hands with the magistrate.

JANE

I appreciate your understanding.

MAGISTRATE

I'm a Harvard man myself.

JANE

Then I can trust you with my secret.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE -- MORNING

Jane comes down the stairs headed towards breakfast. She spots Alex sitting on the couch working on his laptop.

JANE

What's gotten you so energetic this early in the morning?

ALEX

Model U.N. We're booking our hotel rooms for the competition.

How much is this "activity" going to cost me?

ALEX

We're raising money ourselves.

JANE

Not a bake sale I hope.

ALEX

We're all doing our own thing. Ellen and I thought you could sell me your Yawma products at your wholesale price and I could resell them at the retail price.

JANE

And take away all my clients where I could make an actual profit?

ALEX

Think of this as expanding your market. We might attract people who have, like, never tried the products. Then we'll collect their contact info so you can make, like, follow-up sales calls.

Jane plops down on the couch.

JANE

Like a store's loss leader approach.

ALEX

Loss leader?

JANE

Selling a popular item below cost to get customers into a store to buy the rest of your products at the regular price.

INT. EXAMINING ROOM -- DAY

Jane enters her examining room to discover Charles fully dressed seated on the examining table.

JANE

What are you doing here?

CHARLES

I have an appointment for a medical exam.

There are several other doctors in town.

CHARLES

You won't return my phone calls asking for a repeat date. You just leave your Yawma updates on my voice mail and skedaddle.

TANE

We have a professional relationship.

CHARLES

I was a perfect gentleman to you.

JANE

Maybe that's the problem.

At this Charles jumps off the table and grabs Jane and kisses her.

She pulls away.

JANE (CONT'D)

What the hell was that?

CHARLES

Checking my reflexes?

JANE

Don't take off your pants. I'll give you a prescription for Prozac.

And with that she's out of the room.

INT. AUDITORIUM OF CITY HALL -- DAY

The town's annual holiday sale. Vendors rent a booth for a nominal fee and sell their wares.

Alex and Ellen have set up a booth to sell Yawma products. They've decorated the booth with pictures of happy people enjoying various fun activities.

The holiday sale has just opened and the booth next to them is empty.

A female CUSTOMER walks up to Alex. He sizes up the woman and then picks up a jar.

ALEX

This face cream is the best product around.

ALEX (CONT'D)

It can make you look, like, five years younger. (Beat) Not that you need to look younger -- you're beautiful already.

The customer smiles and takes the jar from Alex's hand and reads the contents label.

As she does this, Manuel appears at the next booth pulling a huge suitcase on wheels.

He calls over to the customer:

MANUEL

Madam, that cream is definitely the best. But you needn't pay top price for it. If you would be so good as to come over here, I'll give you a special price.

The customer immediately drops the jar back on the counter of Alex's booth and strides over to Manuel.

At this moment Jane appears -- she has heard what happened and she's steaming.

Jane stomps up to Manuel, ignoring the startled customer.

JANE

How dare you undersell me! I'm trying to make money to help my son.

She points to the sign on Alex's booth:

"Help High School Student Attend Model U.N. in New York"

Manuel holds up his own sign:

"Hispanic Education Fund to Buy Shoes for School Children"

MANUEL

Your son wants to go on a class trip and these children want shoes to go to school. There's no comparison.

Jane is momentarily stymied, but then she jumps back into the fray.

**JANE** 

You're trying to steal all my business. This is my patch and you can't poach.

Manuel does not reply as he turns back to the customer who has been watching this exchange.

Jane charges back to Alex's booth.

INT. AUDITORIUM OF CITY HALL -- LATER

The stock of products on Manuel's table is almost gone. While on Alex's table almost all the products are still there.

ELLEN

I'm glad Mom went to her office. If she saw how badly, you know, we're doing, she'd be upset.

ALEX

I'll have to come up, like, with another plan to make money.

ELLEN

How about a real job?

ALEX

Who would hire me?

Manuel overhears this and speaks to Alex.

MANUEL

I need someone to package my products for mailing to customers. I'll pay you \$10 an hour.

ALEX

Ten dollars!

Ellen speaks in aside to Alex.

ELLEN

Mom will be furious you're working for the enemy.

ALEX

I won't tell her who I'm working for. But I have to earn money for the trip.

INT. CLASSROOM AT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE -- EVENING

This is the classroom where Manuel teaches Spanish. The Yayma products are spread out on the student desks. There are no students present.

The teacher's desk holds the packing materials -- boxes, bubble wrap, heavy-duty sealing tape.

Manuel works with Alex wrapping packages to mail.

MANUEL

Does your mom have another job besides selling Yawma products?

ALEX

Yeah, she's a doc ... Oh, oh. Forget what I just said.

MANUEL

Isn't selling these products a conflict of ethics?

ALEX

She's very careful, like, not to blur the lines between her full-time job and her part-time one.

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jane uses a stethoscope to listen to the breathing of a teenage girl whose mother hovers nearby.

JANE

A chest rub might loosen up the pflegm. I could write a prescription or ...

And Jane leans behind her desk and pulls out a Yawma jar.

JANE (CONT'D)

... you could buy this Yawma chest rub for \$10.

The mother reaches for the Yawma jar as Jane smiles.

INT. JANE'S BEDROOM -- EVENING

Jane sits on her bed watching on a small flat-screen television the scene from the movie musical SOUTH PACIFIC in which the beautiful young Polynesian woman learns that her lover -- the handsome young American army lieutenant -- has been killed on an dangerous mission.

Tears stream down her face and she reaches for tissues as the phone rings.

Jane picks up the phone and mumbles hello through her tissueblowing. She listens for a moment while she regains her composure.

Thanks for calling to say you got to New York. (Beat) Just don't break any of the school's Model U.N. rules. I don't want to get any late-night phone calls ...

INT. JANE'S BEDROOM -- LATER

Jane sleeps. The phone rings.

Jane sits up and grabs the phone.

JANE

Yes, I'll be there right away.

She jumps out of bed.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM OF LOCAL HOSPITAL -- NIGHT

Jane rushes through the door.

INT. CUBICLE IN EMERGENCY ROOM -- NIGHT

Jane pulls open the curtain to see Manuel lying on a bed with a bandage around his left arm.

JANE

You!

MANUEL

The hospital said I should call my own doctor to be released.

JANE

And you called me why?

MANUEL

I don't have a doctor.

JANE

And you knew I'm a doctor how?

MANUEL

It's a complicated story. For now can you just sign the release forms?

JANE

How did you hurt yourself?

MANUEL

I slipped on bubble wrap and banged my arm against the edge of a desk. Then I couldn't stop the bleeding.

Jane leans over and pulls his arm closer to inspect it.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM OF LOCAL HOSPITAL -- NIGHT

Jane stands at the desk with Manuel next to her. She signs him out.

JANE

You're sprung.

MANUEL

Can you give me a ride home?

JANE

You want my first-born too?

INT. INTERIOR OF JANE'S CAR -- NIGHT

Jane drives without speaking to Manuel.

Suddenly the car becomes sluggish.

Jane pulls to the side of the road and then her eyes go to the gas meter.

JANE

I knew I forgot to do something this afternoon.

MANUEL

You have road service?

JANE

I have Alex.

Manuel looks a question.

JANE (CONT'D)

I've been trying to economize. Alex can usually come with a buddy of his to help me out.

MANUEL

You do this often?

Jane ignores this. Then shakes her head.

JANE

Only Alex is in New York at Model U.N.

MANUEL

We could call someone else for help.

Jane glares at him.

JANE

And risk ruining my reputation as a respectable woman?

MANUEL

Do these seats go back?

Jane looks at him. Then she gets his meaning.

JANE

You want to wait until daylight? (Beat) The lever is on the right side of the seat.

Manuel adjusts his seat back as Jane watches him. Then she adjusts her seat back.

EXT. ALONGSIDE THE ROAD -- MORNING

Jane emerges from the bushes that she has just "visited." Manuel is already back standing alongside the car.

JANE

Now it's a decent time to call for help.

MANUEL

Yes, daylight will save your reputation.

JANE

I'm a doctor tending to my patient.

At this moment Jane's cell rings and she answers it.

JANE (CONT'D)

Oh, no, tell me you're joking, Alex. (Beat) I'll pick you up at the airport.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jane, Alex, Alex's friend DAVE and DAVE'S MOTHER sit facing the principal MR. BARTLETT, a thin grey-haired man in his early 60s. He speaks to the two mothers.

MR. BARTLETT

They knew the rules and they chose to break them.

JANE

How did they buy beer?

JANE (CONT'D)

They're both underage.

MR. BARTLETT

They got someone to buy it for them. And then they drank it in their hotel room.

DAVE'S MOTHER

You can't suspend them. Dave has been accepted early at Yale and Alex at Harvard.

ALEX

Couldn't we do some kind of community service, Mr. Bartlett?

DAVE

Hours and hours of community service.

MR. BARTLETT

It does reflect favorably on the high school that you boys were accepted to Harvard and Yale. But I can't send signals to the other students that it's okay to break the rules.

JANE

What if they volunteer in a drug rehab center?

DAVE'S MOTHER

Or a planned parenthood clinic?

Both boys shake their heads at these two suggestions.

ALEX

We could do an AIDS outreach project to the Spanish-speaking community. We could ask Manuel Garcia, a community college Spanish teacher, to help us.

Jane looks at Alex. Why is he mentioning her competition?

MR. BARTLETT

Bring a written proposal to me in two days on how you plan to go about this AIDS outreach project. If I find that it has sufficient merit, I may decide not to suspend you. Alex and Dave jump up and take turns pumping Mr. Bartlett's hand.

Jane grabs Alex by the shirt collar and marches him out of the office.

INT. HALL OF SCHOOL

Jane faces Alex. Dave and his mother can be seen walking away from the principal's office.

JANE

Maybe we should take this as a sign you're not mature enough to go to Harvard now. Two years of junior college could be a good idea.

ALEX

I had one bottle of beer! You want to end my career before it's started?

JANE

Why did you mention Manuel Garcia?

ALEX

I ... I

JANE

Spit it out.

ALEX

After you left the holiday fair he was nice to Ellen and me ...

JANE

Ha ha! That little sneak will stop at nothing ...

ALEX

Look, I need his help. Dave and I have got to get Mr. Bartlett to agree not to suspend us.

JANE

And you think this AIDS outreach project will do the trick?

ALEX

Can we call Manuel now?

Jane nods in weary acceptance.

EXT. OUTSIDE APARTMENT BUILDING -- DAY

Jane and Alex walk up to the front door of the building.

JANE

I don't see why we couldn't meet him at a coffee place.

ALEX

His car is in the shop.

Alex rings the outer button and the door buzzes open.

EXT. HALL OUTSIDE MANUEL'S APARTMENT -- DAY

Manuel opens the door to Jane and Alex.

Jane glares at Manuel.

**JANE** 

Don't get any ideas. My son needs help.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF MANUEL'S APARTMENT -- DAY

In contrast to the sterility of Charles' living room, this room looks lived-in and appreciated.

The walls are painted a bright green. Book piles are stacked in front of a crammed book cabinet. Framed photos jostle for space on the walls with reproductions of Frieda Kahlo and Diego Rivera paintings.

Alex stops in front of a photo of Manuel surrounded by 10-year-old boys.

ALEX

Who are these kids?

MANUEL

Those are the recipients of the shoes I buy with the money from my Yawma sales.

Jane peers at the photo.

JANE

You're telling the truth about this?

Alex points at one boy.

ALEX

That one is my nephew.

ALEX (CONT'D)

His father died last year, and his mother -- my sister -- does not do so well.

Jane hesitates -- then plows ahead.

JANE

I got you sprung from the hospital. Now Alex needs a favor in return.

ALEX

Didn't you bill me for doctor services?

JANE

Your insurance wouldn't have paid so why bother?

Jane flounces onto a couch.

Alex quickly turns to Manuel.

ALEX

Here's what I need help with.

JANE

Among other things. Finding a money tree would also be good.

INT. HALL OUTSIDE MANUEL'S APARTMENT

As Jane and Alex walk away, Manuel calls after her.

MANUEL

The offer to go square dancing is still good.

Jane glares and turns on her heel.

EXT. FARM HOUSE OUTSIDE SOMERVILLE -- DAY

Establish lone ramshackle wooden farmhouse.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF FARM HOUSE -- DAY

Jane has her Yawma products laid out on the coffee table. An elderly man, PETE DAKOTA, listens as Jane picks up the hand cream and extends it towards him.

**JANE** 

Try this hand cream. It smells heavenly and will soften those calcified spots on your hands.

Pete holds out his hands and Jane liberally douses them with the cream. Pete rubs it into his hands and suddenly he ..

COLLAPSES on the floor.

At first Jane thinks Pete is pulling her leg.

JANE (CONT'D)

It doesn't smell that good to send you into a swoon.

When Pete doesn't laugh or move at all, Jane drops down on her knees and feels for a pulse.

Then she whips out her cell and dials 911.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF FARM HOUSE -- LATER

Jane performs CPR as the paramedics rush into the house. She speaks as she continues to press on his chest.

JANE

I'm a doctor. He's had a heart attack.

PARAMEDIC #1 slides his hands under Jane's hands and takes over while PARAMEDIC #2 prepares to shock Pete's heart.

Behind their backs Jane sweeps the Yawma products into her big carryall bag.

INT. AMBULANCE -- DAY

Jane sits next to Pete as the second paramedic checks Pete's restarted heart.

PARAMEDIC #2

Darn lucky you happened to be there. Or he would have been a goner for sure.

Jane nods, glancing guiltily at the carryall bag with the Yawma products.

EXT. EMERGENCY ROOM ENTRANCE -- DAY

The ambulance pulls up and medical personnel from the emergency room swarm out.

The patient is quickly whisked away as Paramedic #1 turns to a young woman REPORTER standing nearby.

PARAMEDIC #1

This doctor saved the guy's life.

PARAMEDIC #1 (CONT'D)

She was there when he had a heart attack.

Reporter comes up to Jane.

REPORTER

What's your name?

JANE

Why?

REPORTER

I'm a reporter for the Somerville Times and this is a good story.

JANE

You hang around outside the emergency room?

REPORTER

Hospital news is my beat.

JANE

I'd prefer to remain anonymous.

And with that she strides into the emergency room to check on the patient.

Paramedic #1 smiles at the reporter -- he's clearly trying to win brownie points with her.

PARAMEDIC #1

Here's her card. She gave it to us.

REPORTER

Why was she there?

PARAMEDIC #1

Moonlighting.

Paramedic #2 joins them.

PARAMEDIC #2

Trying to sell Yawma products, which she tried to hide from us.

PARAMEDIC #1

We're used to sizing up a situation in a split second. We were too fast for her.

REPORTER

Great story!

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jane drinks from a coffee cup while checking patient charts.

Teresa walks into the room holding a newspaper. Her tentative walk indicates anxiety.

**TERESA** 

I ... I

JANE

You giving notice?

**TERESA** 

I might have to after you see this ...

Teresa thrusts the paper under Jane's nose.

CLOSE UP on front-page headline:

"Dr. Soapy Saves Farmer's Life"

Then the first paragraph of the story:

"Local doctor Jane Parkway's moonlighting gig as a Yawma salesman was responsible for saving the life of ..."

Jane gasps.

JANE

How did she get my name?

At this moment Charles breezes in holding his own copy of the newspaper.

CHARLES

Good morning. No one at the reception desk so I just came on back.

He doesn't notice that Jane is frozen in anger.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Great publicity! Front-page endorsement by a doctor of Yawma products will help all our sales!

Jane unfreezes and snatches the paper from his hands.

**JANE** 

Mine better be out the roof. Because when the Somerville County Medical Association board members see this, it will be "good-bye medical license."

JANE (CONT'D)

And good-bye even junior college.

At this moment Manuel enters the office. He is not holding a newspaper.

MANUEL

No one's at the reception desk.

JANE

And you want?

MANUEL

To discuss Alex's project.

Jane shakes her head.

JANE

He might as well be suspended. There's no way he's going to Harvard now.

MANUEL

What could have happened since yesterday?

JANE

You don't read our local rag?

Jane shoves the newspaper into his hands.

As Manuel's eyes go to the headline, Jane glares at everyone.

JANE (CONT'D)

Everyone out of here. I need some private time to mourn my former life.

Everyone exits.

One second later Teresa pops back in.

TERESA

That first guy is the Yawma salesman you went out with? Looks promising to me.

JANE

Then you date him.

**TERESA** 

"A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

Jane waves her hands at Teresa.

Ben Franklin wasn't choosy. How many bastard children did he father?

Teresa laughs.

TERESA

And who's the hot Latino helping Alex?

JANE

That "hot" Latino is the bastard who steals my Yawma clients.

TERESA

"A stitch in time saves nine."

JANE

You're talking nonsense.

**TERESA** 

If he's single you've got your eyes closed.

Jane shoots Teresa a laser-cold look as Teresa flounces out of the office.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE MEDICAL BUILDING

Charles and Manuel exit the building together.

CHARLES

You're doing great balls of fire with your Yawma sales, Manuel. You selling to your people?

MANUEL

What people would that be?

CHARLES

The ... the people who speak your language -- Mexican.

MANUEL

The language is Spanish. The people are Mexican. And I have a "no discrimination" policy -- I sell to whoever will buy the products.

And with a parting glare Manuel heads off to his car.

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- LATER

Jane eats lunch at her desk. Teresa knocks, then enters without waiting for a reply.

Teresa hands a fax to Jane.

TERESA

Fastest response time anyone in Somerville has ever had.

Jane looks at the fax.

JANE

I'm being investigated by the state medical board on the basis of a complaint filed by the Somerville County Medical Association. Improper use of my medical license!

**TERESA** 

Maybe your malpractice insurance company can get the complaint dismissed before the investigation begins.

JANE

In this town. Not likely.

TERESA

The insurance company will defend you. You'll be cleared of any improprieties.

JANE

Which will mean nothing if I lose all my patients.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE -- EVENING

Jane enters to find Alex and his friend Dave working on a laptop. The boys look up and wave hello to Jane.

JANE

Dave, why don't you go out to the kitchen and find something to eat?

DAVE

Okay, Dr. Parkway.

JANE

And, Alex, get your sister down here.

At that moment Ellen bounces down the stairs.

ELLEN

I, you know, heard the front door open.

JANE

I'm sure you've both seen today's paper.

ELLEN

The kids at school wanted to know all about it. Almost, you know, made me a hero.

ALEX

It's, like, so totally cool.

JANE

The Somerville County Medical Association board members don't think it's so cool. They've complained to the state medical board and there's to be an investigation of my license.

ALEX

No way.

JANE

Even if my license isn't suspended the negative publicity could drive off all my patients.

ELLEN

You'll have to sell more Yawma.

JANE

We'll be broke. Not only will you have to kiss Harvard good-bye, Alex, you'll be lucky to attend junior college.

ALEX

What can we do to help?

JANE

It's in the hands of the lawyers.

Ellen grabs her mother's hands and sings from the musical ANNIE:

ELLEN

"The sun will come out tomorrow ..."

JANE

The forecast is for rain.

EXT. COMMUNITY AIDS CENTER -- DAY

Alex and Dave, each carrying a notebook, walk up to the front door of a run-down building with the sign "Community AIDS Center" in both English and Spanish.

INT. COMMUNITY AIDS CENTER WAITING ROOM

Alex and Dave enter the waiting room where Manuel stands waiting for them.

MANUEL

Okay, boys, do you have the materials the school nurse gave you?

Both boys nod.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

And you've studied the information?

Again both boys nod.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

Then this is your first meeting with a group of Spanish-speaking Boy Scouts. You'll talk about safer sex practices and I'll translate.

ALEX

Do you have the bananas?

INT. MEETING ROOM AT AIDS CENTER -- NIGHT

Alex and Dave stand at the front of a small meeting room facing several teenage boys sitting at a long table. In front of each boy lies a banana.

Manuel stands off to one side.

Dave picks up a banana from the table and peels it. Then Alex holds up a condom in its wrapper.

ALEX

Carefully take the condom from the wrapper. Make sure not to, like, punch any holes in it from a loose fingernail.

Alex pauses while Manuel translates this instruction.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Then slowly put it on like this.

Manuel translates as Dave holds up the peeled banana. Alex demonstrates how to unroll the condom carefully over the banana.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Now take turns holding a banana for the kid next to you and practice.

Manuel translates as the boys peel their bananas.

INT. MEETING ROOM AT AIDS CENTER -- LATER

The condom-covered bananas lie on the table. A teen, JOSE, raises his hand.

ALEX

You have a question?

JOSE

(In accented English) I do not understand how the AIDS virus makes people sick.

Alex and Dave look at each other. They don't know the answer.

ALEX

I'll ask my mother the doctor to come to our next session. She can explain.

Manuel translates with an amused expression on his face.

Then he speaks to Alex.

MANUEL

She may not be so pleased you volunteered her services.

ALEX

If there's an administrative hearing about her medical license, she'll need all the friends she can get.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE -- DAY

Jane opens the door to two POLICE OFFICERS.

POLICE OFFICER #1 Is this the residence of Ellen

Parkway?

Jane's knees tremble.

Why do you want her?

POLICE OFFICER #2

She's wanted for passing a bad check at Wal-Mart.

Without answering Jane strides to the bottom of the staircase.

JANE

Ellen Parkway! Downstairs right now!

Ellen bounces down the stairs. She stops at the bottom when she sees the two police officers.

ELLEN

What's going on?

POLICE OFFICER #1

You're wanted for passing a bad check at Wal-Mart.

ELLEN

I don't even shop there.

POLICE OFFICER #2

Your drivers license number was given with a check on your account, which had a balance of zero when you wrote a \$295 check.

JANE

Let me see the signature on the check.

Police Officer #1 hands Jane the check. She looks at it, then passes it to Ellen.

ELLEN

Not my signature and not even my check. I'll show you.

She dashes upstairs while Jane turns to the police officers.

JANE

Someone must have gotten hold of her information and made checks with her bank number. I've heard blank check stock is easily available.

POLICE OFFICER #2

We still need to know that she didn't do this herself.

Ellen runs back down the stairs. She holds out her checkbook. Then she signs her name on a piece of paper she's brought down with her.

ELLEN

My signature is nothing like the one on the bad check.

POLICE OFFICER #2

It's possibly a case of identity theft. You'll have to straighten this all out and then file a police report.

They hand their cards to Ellen and leave.

Jane sinks into the couch.

At this moment the house phone rings. Jane snatches it up as a distraction.

JANE

Yes, Mrs. Kresky, I'll be right there.

Jane grabs her Yawma products bag and speaks to Ellen.

JANE (CONT'D)

We'll deal with this when I get back. Mrs. Kresky is desperate to look beautiful for a party tonight. All the beauty products in the world can't make her beautiful. But the sale can help pay for our legal fees.

EXT. OUTSIDE RANCH HOUSE -- DAY

Jane pulls up in her car just as an old Mazda Miata also pulls up.

She jumps out of her car and charges up to the Mazda as Manuel gets out of his car with his Yawma products bag.

JANE

What are you doing here! Mrs. Kresky called me! You tapping my phone?

MANUEL

I can assure you that Mrs. Kresky telephoned me to request my presence at her home.

At that moment the front door of the ranch house bangs open and MRS. KRESKY herself appears.

She's middle-aged and wearing a cotton housedress wrap-around. She'll need a lot of beauty products.

Mrs. Kresky comes up to Jane and Manuel, who stand frozen glaring at each other.

MRS. KRESKY

You all have met?

JANE

Mrs. Kresky, why did you call both of us?

MRS. KRESKY

I need a heap of help -- and my papa taught me two heads are better than one.

Jane's eyes meet Manuel's eyes. Perhaps they can sell twice as many products if they work together.

INT. MRS. KRESKY'S KITCHEN -- LATER

Two large piles of Yawma products top the kitchen table. Mrs. Kresky -- whose face looks a whole lot better than before -- writes the second of two checks. She hands one to Manuel and one to Jane.

MRS. KRESKY

One here check for \$185 and one here check for \$178. You all have helped me heaps. I'll be calling you all both back for refills.

Again Jane and Manuel lock eyes.

EXT. OUTSIDE RANCH HOUSE

Manuel bows slightly to Jane and heads towards his car. Jane follows him.

JANE

Maybe this concept of working together makes sense. We each sold the same amount we would have sold if we'd been here alone.

Manuel shakes his head.

MANUEL

I do not think our temperaments would work well together.

He looks straight into her eyes.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

Too much hot blood on both sides.

Jane hesitates. Is he hinting something else?

JANE

Could we cool off now with iced tea?

Manuel smiles.

MANUEL

A lovely offer. But I have a Saturday afternoon class to teach. (Beat) But call me if you want to go square dancing.

And Manuel jumps in his car and drives off with Jane left staring after him.

At that moment her cell rings. She listens briefly.

JANE

I'll come over now.

EXT. RED BRICK OFFICE BUILDING -- DAY

Jane parks her car in front of a small office building.

CLOSE UP:

The sign next to the front door reads:

Law Offices of Moskowitz, Leiber and Perez

INT. OFFICE OF SOPHIE PEREZ

Jane sits in a leather client chair facing Sophie Perez, an American-born lawyer in her 30s, seated behind her desk. They are in mid-conversation.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Perhaps you'd prefer an older white male attorney to represent you -- someone with whom the Somerville County Medical Association board members can more easily identify.

JANE

Hell no. I'm not going to kowtow to those old farts.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Then let's plan your defense.

SOPHIE PEREZ (CONT'D)

And I'll need \$5,000 as the deductible on your malpractice insurance.

Jane's face blanches.

**JANE** 

Do you take credit cards? (Beat) And will you throw in -- on the house -advice on identity theft?

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE -- EVENING

Jane sits with a pad of paper on her lap. She writes down numbers, then crosses them off.

Alex enters the house and Jane looks up at him.

JANE

When do you have to let Harvard know?

ALEX

Sometime in April I think.

JANE

That should give us enough time to know whether I'm out of the dog house or in the poor house.

Alex sprawls on the couch next to Jane.

ALEX

What are you doing?

JANE

Figuring out how to save money from our monthly budget. My malpractice insurance has a \$5,000 out-of-pocket deductible.

ALEX

We could become vegetarians -- save on buying meat.

JANE

Then we'd just buy more fruits and vegetables.

ALEX

What are your ideas?

JANE

Give up eating all together?

Alex eyes his mother's figure.

ALEX

Might be fine for you. But Ellen and I don't have as much ...

Jane stands up.

JANE

I'll go make more Yawma cold calls.

ALEX

Hey, remember I said that I could make a video of you for YouTube -- before and after using Yawma beauty and cleaning products.

JANE

Would it be legal? I can't risk ...

Alex waves his hand at her.

ALEX

Everyone does it.

JANE

Everyone jaywalks -- and so far this month I've paid two such tickets for you.

She shoots him a dirty look.

EXT. COMMUNITY AIDS CENTER -- AFTERNOON

Jane, Alex and Dave approach the door.

JANE

I'm not so sure about this. The medical aspects of the AIDS virus can be pretty gruesome.

ALEX

According to Manuel, the more gruesome the better.

DAVE

And anyway, he'll translate whatever you say into whatever he wants to say.

Jane frowns.

JANE

That's even worse What if he ....?

ALEX

There won't be any cameras.

INT. WAITING ROOM OF AIDS COMMUNITY CENTER

Jane, Alex and Dave walk through the waiting room en route to the meeting room.

Jane looks at the AIDS patients waiting to see community center doctors or social workers. She spots the painful skin sores of some patients as she walks by.

INT. MEETING ROOM AT AIDS COMMUNITY CENTER

Jane, Alex and Dave enter the room. The Boy Scouts and Manuel are waiting for them.

Manuel gestures at one kid holding a video camera.

MANUEL

The center wants us to record this talk. Later it can be played for other clients.

JANE

I ... I don't look so good on camera.

MANUEL

It's not for a Yawma beauty products video.

Alex jumps in.

ALEX

It's okay as long as we get a copy.

Jane looks at him as if he's nuts.

Manuel nods and gestures Jane to the front of the room.

INT. MEETING ROOM AT AIDS COMMUNITY CENTER -- LATER

Jane pauses to take a drink from a water bottle. TYRONE SMITH, an African-American boy, raises his arm.

TYRONE

Will any condom do ya?

JANE

Some condoms will prevent pregnancy but will not prevent exposure to AIDS. That's because the AIDS virus is smaller than sperm. Boys who understand laugh; Manuel translates for the others.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE -- LATER

Jane and Alex enter after arriving home from the AIDS center.

Jane goes over to her Yawma products bag and pulls out a jar of cream. She reads the ingredients.

Then she turns to Alex.

JANE

I'm ordering several jars of this cream for you to take to the AIDS Community Center. I think the cream could really help those people with skin sores.

Alex looks at her.

ALEX

Won't that cost money? I thought we needed to count every penny.

Jane nods.

**JANE** 

But when I saw the patients in the waiting room with those sores, I wanted to help them.

Alex gives his mother a rare hug.

Jane smiles, then wags her finger at him.

JANE (CONT'D)

Now don't go telling everyone I'm getting soft. I need people to listen to me when I tell them they have to take their medications.

Alex pats her shoulder.

ALEX

There's only one place where you're soft ...

Jane laughs and pushes his hand way.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE -- EVENING

Jane goes to the door wearing a tight dress that shows off her curves. Not exactly an outfit put together by Ellen but not Jane's usual tailored outfit. Jane opens the door to Charles, who stands holding a bouquet of flowers.

CHARLES

Thought I'd trade up from a cleaning product.

JANE

How lovely. I'll just put them in water.

Alex comes down the stairs and spots Charles.

ALEX

What are you doing here?

CHARLES

Darn if I know. Your mama gave me a holler and asked me out to dinner.

Alex goes to the bottom of the stairs and calls up.

ALEX

Ellen! Come down here! You'll never guess who's here.

Ellen bounds down the stairs and also spots Charles. She whispers to Alex:

ELLEN

What's he doing here?

ALEX

We're all waiting to find out.

At this moment Jane sashays out of the kitchen with the flowers in a vase. She sets the vase down on the coffee table.

She smiles at her kids and takes Charles' arm. The two kids exchange a look.

JANE

Don't stay up too late. It's a school day tomorrow.

And with that she propels Charles out the door, wobbling somewhat on the heels she has on.

ALEX

She's up to something.

ELLEN

Selling her soul so you can go to Harvard.

INT. ITALIAN RESTAURANT -- EVENING

Same restaurant as the first time they had dinner together. Jane's head is seductively close to Charles' head. They each have a glass of the cheap house wine in front of them.

Jane raises her glass to Charles, who also raises his glass.

JANE

To successful Yawma sales.

Charles clinks her glass hard, then takes a big gulp of his wine.

CHARLES

While they're cooking our grub, mind telling me what this dinner is about?

JANE

I ... I wanted to apologize for not appreciating your etchings. I'm a little shortchanged in the art appreciation department.

CHARLES

I may seem a little crude. But when I see something I like, I got to have it.

He takes her hand.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

And I like what I see right now.

Jane does not remove her hand.

JANE

Charles, could we spend some time together?

Charles straightens up. This is what he likes to hear.

JANE (CONT'D)

I'd really appreciate it if you would share some of your Yawma sales tricks with me.

Charles grins.

CHARLES

Now that would take some time. We'd have to take it real slow.

He winks.

At this moment Manual walks up to their table. Jane glares at him -- annoyed at this interruption in her plan.

She yanks her hand out of Charles' hand and speaks to Manuel.

JANE

What are you doing here?

MANUEL

Charles told me he couldn't meet me tonight because he was having dinner with you. I thought I'd see how you two are "making out."

JANE

There's no "making out" here.

MANUEL

You're just getting tips on making Yawma sales? I'd love to hear too.

Manuel pulls up a chair to the table.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

I'd be happy to join you for dinner.

Jane glares at him.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

I'll pay my share.

Jane plonks her wine glass down on the table. Foiled again!

EXT. OUTSIDE JANE'S HOUSE

Charles walks Jane to the door. It seems as if he's going to kiss her. But Manuel appears right behind Charles.

MANUEL

I'll just be a minute -- have to get some material from Alex for the center. Then you can have the traditional good-night kiss.

That blows the mood for Charles.

CHARLES

I'll give you a holler tomorrow.

And he's off.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE

Jane storms inside the house ready to scream at Manuel. Instead he grabs her and passionately kisses her.

She does not resist.

He lets her go. Is that her knees buckling from emotion?

JANE

I already told you I have no intention of sleeping with the enemy.

MANUEL

I owed you a kiss. (Beat) As an apology for interrupting Charles' chance to kiss you.

JANE

You probably owe me a whole lot more.

MANUEL

You planned to -- is the expression "get lucky"?

**JANE** 

Not in the way you imagine.

At that moment Alex and Ellen gallop down the stairs.

ALEX

Mom, you promised to help me with my chemistry assignment. It's due tomorrow.

ELLEN

And you promised to check the grammar in my English class essay.

Jane eyes Manuel once more, then turns to the kids.

JANE

Manuel is just leaving.

ELLEN

What happened to Charles?

JANE

It was a business dinner.

MANUEL

In that dress?

Jane wiggles her hips.

JANE

If not now, when?

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- DAY

A thin frazzled-looking middle-aged woman, MRS. WALD, sits across from Jane.

MRS. WALD

No doctor's visit for me. I just need more of that Yawma beauty cream.

JANE

Why didn't you call -- I'd have brought it out to you?

MRS. WALD

My husband thinks it's foolishness. No way I'd let the noisy neighbors see you come to my house again.

Mrs. Wald stuffs some bills into Jane's hand.

MRS. WALD (CONT'D)

You have no idea how a little bottle of beauty cream raises up my spirits.

Jane looks at Mrs. Wald. It's true that Jane has no idea.

Mrs. Wald leaves and Teresa immediately enters the office.

JANE

Teresa, I think I've just found an untapped outlet for selling Yawma products.

Teresa looks the question.

JANE (CONT'D)

I'm going to have a women's-only health talk once a week. And I'll be selling Yawma to women who don't want their husbands to know what they're buying.

TERESA

That kind of "tupperware party" can get you in even more trouble with the state medical board.

You're the one with all those hokey expressions. What's the one about "hung for a" ...?

TERESA

Hanged. People are hanged; pictures are hung. (Beat) "You might as well be hanged for a sheep as for a lamb."

JANE

That's the one! I need to make the Yawma sales.

Jane smiles.

JANE (CONT'D)

Plus I'll throw in some health information too. Give them more bang for the buck. (Beat) There must be some Ben Franklin saying for that.

And she winks at Teresa.

INT. COMMUNITY CENTER AIDS WAITING ROOM -- EVENING

Alex and Dave are here with a digital movie camera while Jane stands to one side wearing a tailored pants suit.

JANE

You really think this is a good idea to film me handing out Yawma cream to AIDS patients?

ALEX

It's, like, a cool opportunity to show you using Yawma products to help sick people.

JANE

We don't know that the cream will help them.

DAVE

Then say on camera that you, like, want them to try out the cream and see if it helps.

JANE

Promise not to film my backside.

The boys grin.

ALEX

We're waiting for Manuel ...

JANE

Why him?

DAVE

... to translate in case some patients don't understand you.

JANE

I speak enough Spanish to talk to my patients.

ALEX

In the privacy of your office. You don't want to mangle Spanish that will be heard on the web.

At this moment Manuel sweeps into the waiting room.

MANUEL

Please accept my sincere apologies for my late arrival. I had to send out a shipment and, to my regret, I did not have my usual shipping helper.

Manuel shoots a look at Alex that Jane can't see.

Now Manuel turns to Jane. Before he can say anything, Jane forestalls any mention of the evening before.

JANE

Alex has told me that you will translate for me if needed because my Spanish isn't good enough for broadcasting on the web.

Manuel does a slight bow.

MANUEL

It will be my pleasure.

Jane walks over to a male PATIENT whose skin sores are clearly visible. Manuel stays at her side as she hands a Yawma jar of cream to the patient.

PATIENT

What's this crap, lady?

JANE

It's a special cream that may help with your skin sores.

PATIENT

Did anyone ask you to help me? Go get lost!

And he shoves the jar back in her hand.

Jane looks at Dave filming this exchange.

DAVE

We'll edit this part out. Keep going.

Jane speaks to Manuel as she walks across the room to another likely patient.

JANE

I just failed my first screen test.

MANUEL

You are engaged in doing good deeds. You need not worry ...

Jane turns quickly to look at Dave.

JANE

You're filming my backside!

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- EVENING

Folding chairs have been crammed into her office. Six women including Mrs. Wald face Jane, who sits at her desk.

Alex and Dave with the camera stand at the back of the room.

JANE

Welcome to the first women's-only health care workshop. Before we get started, I just want to let you know that my son and his friend will be filming this for a video they're making.

Rustling movements from some of the women and Jane holds up her hand.

JANE (CONT'D)

Hold on. All of you will be filmed FROM THE BACK -- and we'll make sure in the editing that none of you can be identified.

She now looks over at Dave.

JANE (CONT'D)

AND I WILL BE FILMED FROM THE FRONT.

INT. JANE'S DOCTOR'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jane's office is back to its usual arrangement.

Alex and Dave enter her office and drop their school backpacks on the floor.

ALEX

We edited the video down to a threeminute presentation on, like, the benefits of Yawma products for health problems.

DAVE

And we set up a website that links with the video. We also set up a PayPal account so people can buy from you off the website.

JANE

Did you edit out all shots of my backside?

ALEX

Mom, in a video about looking your best we, like, wanted you to look your best.

Jane shakes her head. She's not quite ready to believe him.

JANE

And who's going to ship out the products if I do sell off the web?

ALEX

Dave and I. You can pay Dave minimum wage and, like, keep an account of my time as a credit against college tuition.

JANE

Are you sure that my agreement with Yawma allows me to do this?

DAVE

We read it carefully. You are allowed to do your own promotional activities as long as the activities are in good taste.

JANE

Then my backside better not be shown. Because that shot would definitely not be in good taste.

INT. OFFICE OF SOPHIE PEREZ -- DAY

Jane enters Sophie's office. Sophie motions Jane to take a seat.

SOPHIE PEREZ

I have good news and I have bad news.

JANE

Good news first.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Your daughter's identity theft problem is resolved and I've filed the police report.

JANE

What's the bad news?

SOPHIE PEREZ

I couldn't get the complaint against you dismissed. There will be an administrative law hearing to consider revoking your medical license.

Jane jumps up and paces in the small office space.

JANE

All those long years of medical school, residency ...

SOPHIE PEREZ

I've been researching the hearings in this city. There is ample precedence that we can beat this.

Jane pauses in her pacing.

SOPHIE PEREZ (CONT'D)

We have to marshall all our resources

. . .

Jane slides back into her seat.

JANE

What resources are those?

INT. LIVING ROOM OF JANE'S HOUSE -- DAY

Jane enters from seeing the lawyer and spots Alex and Dave working on boxes that line the dining room table.

JANE

What are you doing?

ALEX

The video of you on YouTube is, like, a big hit. People have ordered Yawma products from the website.

DAVE

We had to get more supplies from Charles.

Ellen bounces down the stairs carrying a pile of paper.

ELLEN

And I designed a personal note from you thanking the person and, you know, encouraging the person to order more.

Ellen hands the paper pile to Dave, who sticks one sheet in each of the still-unsealed boxes.

JANE

Charles came by already?

ALEX

On his way now. He asked if he could, like, see you when he came by.

JANE

He's probably still annoyed at me.
I ...

ALEX

Turn your charm on him.

DAVE

Some people actually like your backside!

ELLEN

We could put together a cute outfit.

JANE

Enough of your cute outfits. What he sees here is what he gets.

The doorbell rings at that moment.

ALEX

You have plenty of enough.

Alex laughs as Jane twirls and sings from the musical WEST SIDE STORY:

"I'm so pretty, oh so pretty. It's amazing how pretty I feel ..."

Jane dances over to the front door and opens it.

Charles stands there holding an immense box of Yawma supplies.

Alex and Dave rush to take the box from Charles.

Now Charles steps up to Jane and pecks her on the cheek.

CHARLES

How's my top Yawma salesperson of the week?

JANE

I'm doing that well?

CHARLES

If you keep up like today, you'll be top salesperson of the month too.

Jane impulsively hugs him. Charles breaks out in a grin as Jane steps back.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

I knew once you got started you'd go full steam ahead.

Jane laughs.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Only I hate to rain on your parade

JANE

What's happened?

CHARLES

If you lose your medical license you might have to give up Yawma.

JANE

I'll need it even more then. Why would I have to give it up?

CHARLES

You wouldn't be a good representative of the upstanding citizens who represent Yawma.

Jane's eyes blaze.

You're the one who told me this could be a good move for me!

Charles smiles in what he believes is a seductive look.

CHARLES

I could take care of you.

Now Jane's really angry.

JANE

As if I'd agree to that!

Charles spreads out his arms in a placating motion.

CHARLES

Remember, you wanted to do this to make moola for Alex going to Harvard!

**JANE** 

I ...

Alex jumps between the two of them.

ALEX

... Mom, Charles, cool down.

Jane looks around at her kids, Dave, Charles. Then she nods to herself.

JANE

We'll just have to help the lawyer win my case.

ELLEN

How are we going to do that?

JANE

Make a video?

At this moment there's another knock on the door. Jane yanks open the door to see Manuel standing there.

JANE (CONT'D)

And what do you want?

MANUEL

I owe you the courtesy to warn you. I'm going to be called as a character witness in your administrative law hearing.

Called by who?

MANUEL

The medical board side.

JANE

You're testifying against me?

MANUEL

That "incident" when your patient having appendicitis surgery ...

Jane's face says it all.

JANE

Kathy Hall ended up okay. And I wasn't the surgeon or the anesthesiologist.

Jane stares at him as if she can see the whole scene in front of her eyes now.

JANE (CONT'D)

You're going to get all my Yawma sales when I go down.

MANUEL

I didn't volunteer to testify. Someone must have told them I was at the hospital.

JANE

Yeah, those Somerville County Medical Association board members probably have spies everywhere -- all assigned to spy on me.

MANUEL

They are doctors and you were at a hospital. One of them may have ...

Jane is about to retort when Alex cuts in.

ALEX

Mom, this is a small town. Things get around.

JANE

What if the YouTube video also gets around?

MANUEL

What YouTube video?

Jane waves her hands at him.

JANE

Oh, no, I'm not telling Benedict Arnold about it.

MANUEL

Who's Benedict Arnold?

Jane glares at him.

JANE

A traitor.

EXT. COURTHOUSE STEPS -- MORNING

Jane wearing a very conservative pants suit walks up the steps with her attorney Sophie Perez and Teresa.

Behind them walk Alex and Ellen, who along with Dave have taken off from school to give moral support to Jane.

SOPHIE PEREZ

As I've told you before, this is an administrative law hearing so there's no jury. There's only a judge.

JANE

And the other side.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Yes, that too. Just try to demonstrate confidence.

Jane swaggers her hips and Sophie nods at this.

SOPHIE PEREZ (CONT'D)

Remember, we're going to take the position that your work with Yawma makes your more -- not less -- sensitive to your medical patients' needs.

JANE

Can we bribe the judge to agree?

INT. COURTROOM -- LATER

Small room used for administrative hearings. The only people here are those directly involved in the hearing. This includes the Somerville County Medical Association board members -- all five are older white males.

ADMINISTRATE LAW JUDGE WILLIAM HURLEY sits at a table. (He does not wear a robe.)

The state medical board attorney, MANFRED HOBBES, an elderly white man, is in the midst of making his case to the judge.

## HOBBES

Dr. Parkway's moonlighting job as a Yawma salesman is a disgrace to the medical field. Her actions send a very strong message to the good citizens of Somerville that being a medical doctor is no better than an uneducated salesman. She's trading on the goodwill and trust of being a doctor to sell cleaning products!

Judge Hurley turns to Sophie.

JUDGE HURLEY Counsel for Dr. Parkway, what do you say to this charge?

Sophie rises to speak to the judge.

SOPHIE PEREZ

I am certain that many of the members of the Somerville County Medical Association play golf. They may even do so several times a week. It is an activity of theirs that does not prevent them practicing medicine when they are not on the golf course.

Sophie turns and looks at the Somerville County Medical Association board members. Then she turns back to the judge.

SOPHIE PEREZ (CONT'D)

Your Honor, you may even play golf with these men. Yet this doesn't prevent you from sitting on the bench.

She smiles at the judge, who nods.

SOPHIE PEREZ (CONT'D)

Imagine that selling Yawma products is for Jane Parkway the equivalent of playing golf. Something she does in her time off from work that she enjoys doing. A hobby like golf or tennis or making model airplanes. This activity of selling Yawma products does not interfere with her medical practice.

The AMA attorney's hand shoots up.

JUDGE HURLEY

Yes, Mr. Hobbes.

HOBBES

I beg to differ with Ms. Perez. And to prove my point I'd like to call on Manuel Garcia.

Manuel rises and comes forward. Jane shoots him a Darth Vader look.

Hobbes indicates that Manuel should sit in the chair facing the judge.

JUDGE HURLEY

Mr. Garcia, do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

MANUEL

Yes, Your Honor.

Hobbes stands in front of Manuel.

HOBBES

Mr. Garcia, are you legally here in the United States?

MANUEL

I have a green card and hope in a few months to become a citizen.

Hobbes nods.

HOBBES

And what can you tell us about the incident when you and Dr. Parkway were engaged in trying to sell Yawma products to a Mrs. Johnson?

MANUEL

Correction, Mr. Hobbes. I sold Yawma products to Mrs. Johnson. Dr. Parkway only came by to check on Mrs. Johnson.

Hobbes frowns.

HOBBES

I remind you, Mr. Garcia, that you are required to tell the truth.

MANUEL

Dr. Parkway and I share a Yawma sponsor. He's Charles Denning and he's here in this room.

Manuel points at Charles.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

I'm sure he can produce his bookkeeping accounts that will demonstrate that only I sold products to Mrs. Johnson.

HOBBES

Surely Dr. Parkway also wanted to sell products to Mrs. Johnson.

MANUEL

She may indeed have had such an intent. I cannot testify to whether she would have sold products to Mrs. Johnson. I can only testify that, after checking on Mrs. Johnson, Dr. Parkway returned to the hospital to check on Kathy Hall, her patient undergoing surgery.

Hobbes shakes his head, then speaks to the judge.

HOBBES

No further questions of Mr. Garcia.

The judge motions Manuel that he can return to his seat in the courtroom.

As Manuel walks back to his seat he looks over at Jane. This time she smiles at him. Maybe he's not such a bad guy after all.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Your Honor, I'd like to ask Pete Dakota to come forward to answer some questions.

The judge nods, and Sophie motions for Pete to come forward and take the seat vacated by Manuel.

JUDGE HURLEY

Mr. Dakota, do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

PETE

Yes, Your Honor.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Could you please tell the judge how Dr. Parkway saved your life by being present in your home when you had a heart attack?

PETE

Just like the lady lawyer said. Dr. Parkway performed CPR and saved my life because she was right there when I dropped dead.

Hobbes jumps up.

HOBBES

Your Honor, this lucky coincidence does not justify Dr. Parkway besmirching the reputation of serious doctors by acting like an ambulance chaser. She's trolling for patients while trying to sell Yawma products. She may have even slipped Mr. Dakota something to cause his heart attack in order to bolster her reputation.

Sophie jumps up but the judge waves her down.

JUDGE HURLEY

Mr. Hobbes, I fear you're getting far-fetched.

HOBBES

I'm sorry, Your Honor. But the fact remains that making house calls not for medicine but for selling Yawma products is not professional conduct becoming to medical doctors.

Sophie now rises.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Your Honor, I'd like to ask Wilhemina Wald to come forward.

The judge nods, and Sophie motions Mrs. Wald to come forward and sit.

JUDGE HURLEY

Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

MRS. WALD

Yes, Your Honor.

The judge nods.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Could you please tell the judge about the women's-only health group that Dr. Parkway started?

MRS. WALD

When Dr. Parkway was selling me Yawma products I told her that some of us women like to have what you'd call privacy about certain things.

Mrs. Wald pauses as if even thinking about "private" things embarrasses her.

MRS. WALD (CONT'D)

She started a group for us at her doctor's office.

JUDGE HURLEY

And does she sell you Yawma products at these meetings?

MRS. WALD

Yes, she does. But she also gives us free advice about all kinds of medical problems. No other doctor in Somerville has ever done this for us women.

HOBBES

Your Honor, this is exactly our position. Dr. Parkway is crossing the line between her medical practice and selling Yawma products. This type of unprofessional behavior must not be allowed to go unchecked.

Hobbes sweeps his arm in the direction of the Somerville County Medical Association board members.

HOBBES (CONT'D)

We cannot permit her to besmirch the reputation of these honored gentlemen of the medical profession who practice amongst our midst in the most professional manner.

Sophie leaps up again but the judge waves her down.

JUDGE HURLEY

Ms. Perez, I'm sorry but I've heard enough.

JUDGE HURLEY (CONT'D)

I have to rule in favor of the complaint and revoke Dr. Parkway's license for a period of two years.

Jane's face reveals her desolation.

JUDGE HURLEY (CONT'D)

We will review this matter again in two years to consider whether Dr. Parkway's license may be reinstated.

Ellen and Alex throw their arms around their mother who looks as if she has just gone down on the Titanic.

At that moment Manuel strides to the hearing room doors, yanks open the doors, and motions for someone outside to enter.

The "someone" turns out to be the Boy Scouts to whom Jane spoke along with several AIDS Community Center patients who received Yawma products from Jane to ease their skin sores.

All these newcomers stand at the back of the room as there is no place for them to sit.

Manuel nods at Sophie, who turns to the judge.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Your Honor, before you close this case, I'd like to call forward Boy Scout Tyrone Smith.

Tyrone Smith -- the boy who asked Jane if all condoms are equal -- comes forward. He smiles as he sits in the indicated seat -- excited to be trusted with this important role.

JUDGE HURLEY

Tyrone, do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

TYRONE

I swear, Judge.

Sophie whispers to him.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

Your Honor, Judge.

The judge smiles and waves to Sophie that this is okay.

JUDGE HURLEY

Tyrone, what would you like to say?

TYRONE

Dr. Parkway helped out at the AIDS Community Center a whole lot. She came to a meeting of my Boy Scouts troop and talked to us about how the AIDS virus makes us sick. She told us how important it was to use condoms.

Alex and Dave smile at this.

SOPHIE PEREZ

And did she help anyone else at the AIDS Community Center?

TYRONE

She sure did.

He waves at the adults standing with Manuel at the back of the room. They wave back.

TYRONE (CONT'D)

She gave Yawma cream free to some of those people who already got AIDS. That cream helped 'em with those skin sores better than anything their docs gave 'em. We all think she's a great doc.

Sophie stands.

SOPHIE PEREZ

Judge Hurley, I'd like you to reconsider your decision. I could call all these Boy Scouts and people from the AIDS Community Center to testify in favor of Dr. Parkway. But Tyrone said it for all of them -- they all think Dr. Parkway is "a great doc."

The judge looks at Tyrone, then at the others standing at the back of the room.

Then he looks at the Somerville County Medical Association board members. He looks at their old white male faces, then he looks at the multiracial and gender faces of the people from the AIDS Community Center.

The judge turns back to the lawyers and Dr. Parkway.

JUDGE HURLEY

I'm going to reverse myself. Not something I do often.

JUDGE HURLEY (CONT'D)

But I can admit my own mistake.

He smiles at Dr. Parkway.

JUDGE HURLEY (CONT'D)

Dr. Parkway, your license is not revoked. You can go on being a medical doctor and selling Yawma products. I would just caution you to use good sense when doing both activities at the same time. You want to be careful to preserve your medical reputation.

Jane's face lights up.

JUDGE HURLEY (CONT'D)

Complaint dismissed. Now clear the courtroom.

And everyone except the Somerville County Medical Association board members cheer. Jane throws her arms around Sophie while Hobbes strides out of the room without looking at the old white male doctors.

INT. OUTSIDE THE HEARING ROOM

Surrounded by all her well-wishers, Jane hugs Manuel.

JANE

I owe you an apology. You were brilliant in there.

MANUEL

I spoke from the heart.

Jane beams. Does he mean something else?

JANE

Would you like to come back to the house to celebrate?

MANUEL

Unfortunately I cannot. I have to take some of the people back to the center and then I must prepare my class lesson for tonight.

Jane is clearly disappointed.

JANE

Maybe we could go square dancing some times?

MANUEL

That would be my pleasure.

Manuel strides off and motions his community center people to follow him.

Charles steps up to Jane. (He's been standing behind Manuel and has heard the exchange between Jane and Manuel.)

CHARLES

I'll be happy to take his place at your celebration.

Jane smiles.

JANE

Very nice of you. But I'll be celebrating with my family.

With that she turns and motions for Ellen, Alex, Dave and Teresa to follow her out.

INT. JANE'S CAR

Jane and Teresa are in front. Alex, Ellen and Dave sit in back.

ALEX

Mom, can we make a detour? Dave and I left something at the center that we need for our follow-up report for Mr. Bartlett.

JANE

I have to give it to you boys. If you hadn't gotten in trouble and had to do community service, my ass would have been grass. I owe you.

The boys beam as Jane drives towards the center.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE AIDS COMMUNITY CENTER

Jane parks the car, and Alex and Dave get out.

Then Alex motions for his mom to come with.

ALEX

Come on, Mom, You might want to say thanks to whoever is here.

Jane nods, gets out of the car followed by Ellen and Teresa.

INT. WAITING ROOM OF AIDS COMMUNITY CENTER

Jane walks in the door and is met by the sight of the Boy Scouts, the community center people, Mrs. Wald, Pete and Manuel waiting for her with balloons that say "Dr. Parkway rocks."

Jane is overwhelmed.

JANE

Thank you, thank you, thank you. This means so much ...

Manuel comes alongside of her and tugs at her hand.

He leads her towards the meeting room with everyone else following behind.

INT. MEETING ROOM AT AIDS COMMUNITY CENTER

Manuel leads Jane into the room followed by everyone else. There's a rented karaoke machine set up here.

Manuel brings Jane up to the karaoke machine.

MANUEL

A little bird ...

He looks at Alex and winks.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

... told me that you like to sing songs from musicals at appropriate moments in your life. We thought we'd have a celebration sing-a-long.

**JANE** 

How did you know I would win?

MANUEL

If you didn't, it was going to be a "make Dr. Parkway feel better" sing-a-long.

Everyone laughs.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

Before we sing, I want to propose to Dr. Parkway -- Jane -- that she and I have a business partnership. We'll sell Yawma products together when she's not doctoring and I'm not teaching.

Everyone including Jane claps.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

That way we'll be so successful that Alex can go to Harvard and I can buy many, many pairs of children's shoes.

More clapping and Alex pumps his arm.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

And now we'll sing.

Manuel clicks on the karaoke machine.

The title of a song appears on the wall behind the machine: "When You're Good to Mama" sung by Queen Latifah from the musical CHICAGO

Manuel takes one of Jane's hands in his and turns back to the crowd.

MANUEL (CONT'D)

And I hope this <u>business</u> partnership will lead to another kind of partnership ...

Jane sees the title of the song. She beams at Manuel and then sings to him before the music starts:

JANE

"There's a lot of favors/ I'm prepared to do/ You do one for Mama/ She'll do one for you."

Manuel laughs and clicks on the song. The machine plays the song:

KARAOKE MACHINE

"Ask any of the chickies in my pen/
They'll tell you I'm the biggest
mother hen/ I love 'em all and all
of them love me/ Because the system
works/ The system called reciprocity."

Manuel motions to everyone.

MANUEL

Let's all sing!

Everybody joins in with Jane and Manuel to sing along with the karaoke machine:

**EVERYONE** 

"Got a little motto/ Always sees me through/ When you're good to Mama/ Mama's good to you."

Song continues as off to one side we hear Alex say to Dave:

ALEX

Maybe we should become Yawma salespeople. It can help us hook up.

Everyone continues to sing while Jane stops singing to reach over and grab Alex by the shirt collar.

**JANE** 

You're too young to be hooking up.

ALEX

We promise to always use a condom.

JANE

In that case ...

She laughs and joins back in with the singing. She lets it rip:

JANE (CONT'D)

"If you want my gravy/ Pepper my ragout/ Spice it up for Mama/ She'll get hot for you."

Both boys make an "ooh" face as Jane and Manuel lock eyes. And we  $\dots$ 

FADE OUT