KEVIN HILL

Pilot

Written by
Jorge A. Reyes

Directed by
Arvin Brown

March 3, 2004 (White)
March 9, 2004 (Blue)
March 12, 2004 (Pink)
March 13, 2004 (Yellow: 1, 2, 8, 21, 33, 35, 40, 41, 42, 45, 50, 50A, 51)
March 14, 2004 (Green)
March 15, 2004 (Goldenrod)
March 17, 2004 (Buff: 10, 11, 11A, 14A, 15-16, 18, 24, 25, 27, 28, 32, 33, 34, 54, 55)
March 21, 2004 (Salmon: 15-16, 17, 18, 24, 27, 28, 34, 37, 39, 43, 46, 47, 48, 48A, 50, 54)
March 22, 2004 (Cherry: 18, 18A, 37, 38)
March 24, 2004 (Tan: 43, 51, 52, 52A)
March 27, 2004 (Grey: 27, 27A, 37, 37A)
INTERIORS

KEVIN'S PLACE
  BEDROOM
  BATHROOM
  BEDROOM CLOSET
  LIVING ROOM
  KITCHEN

DAVIS, DUGAN, & KELLEY LAW FIRM
  ENTRANCE HALLWAY
  CONFERENCE ROOM
  ASSISTANT'S DESK

GREY AND ASSOCIATES
  JESSIE'S OFFICE
  OBSERVATION ROOM
  MAIN FLOOR
  VERONICA'S OFFICE
  ADJOINING CONFERENCE ROOM
  KEVIN'S OFFICE

NY COURTHOUSE - HALLWAY
NY COURTROOM

JCL RECORD COMPANY - CONFERENCE ROOM
PM CLUB
BUFFALO LAWYER'S OFFICE
PLANE
DAY CARE FACILITY
VARIOUS LAWYERS OFFICES
LOTUS NIGHTCLUB (FLASHBACK)

EXTERIORS

WEST VILLAGE STREET
BROWNSTONE OFFICE
KEVIN HILL
PILOT
(COLDENROD) 3/15/2004

KEVIN HILL
PILOT

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INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - DAY
OVER we hear answering machine play...

KEVIN (V.O.)
This is Kevin, leave a message.

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - BEDROOM - DAY
QUICK SHOTS. A BED suspended from LONG THIN POSTS in the ceiling. CLOTHES IMMACULATELY FOLDED in A LARGE WALL SHELF DRESSER. A PLASMA TV. ROWS OF KENNETH COLE shoes sit neatly next to DOZENS of different kinds of SNEAKERS.

GIRL#1
Hey, Kevin, this is Michelle, I met you the other night at Jimmie's Uptown...call me----BEEP!

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - BATHROOM - DAY
Steel and stone. ON—-the expensive shower fixtures. A MAN'S MANICURED HANDS turn them on. CUT TO the man's silhouette in the shower---can't see his face, but we can see he works out.
TIME CUT - THE HANDS DIP a razor into hot water, then we FOLLOW IT as he brings it UP TO HIS FACE--but we stop where we can only see his mouth--he waits to shave, listening--

GIRL#2
Hey Daddy, it's Lorena...so I don't usually do that on the first date--not that I'm regretting it....STILL all a-quiver...call me!

The mouth smiles. THE HANDS move to CLOSE THE MEDICINE CABINET, which would reveal him, but as his hand drags the door over, we MATCH CUT TO--A BEDROOM CLOSET.

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - BEDROOM CLOSET - DAY
--SUITS hang on one side. THROWBACK JERSEYS, SEAN JOHN, BBC on the other. THE HANDS PULL OUT AN ARMANI SUIT.

GIRL #3
Are you gonna call me back or not?

Man puts on a shirt. Fixes his cuffs. Ties his tie. MOVE UP with the camera--we see his face--it's KEVIN HILL, 30, Armani suit, handsome. Checks his look in the mirror. Moves off--
INT. JCL RECORD COMPANY - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

A ROWN OF RECORD COMPANY EXECs wait at a large table. Kevin, DAME BUTLER, 30, also Armani suited, and BRETT, 22, Justin Timberlake-type in Gap gear.

DAME

We know you're here for a listening party for Brett's 2nd CD. That won't be happening.

RECORD COMPANY EXEC

Brett, who the hell are these guys?

KEVIN

For the past three years, JCL Records has earned millions from the sales of Brett's CDs and merchandise, while keeping him under what amounts to a slave contract. He's the hottest act in the game since 50 Cent and he can't afford to buy a house. You've refused to renegotiate, so as of this moment, Brett will not be delivering the masters for his fourth CD—or any other, until you do. Y'all be cool.

Kevin turns, moves to the door.

BRETT

Kevin Hill. My new lawyer.

Brett joins him, they leave. Off the dumbfounded execs--MUSIC CUE: "COOL" - by Morris Day and The Time.

INT. DAVIS, DUGAN, & KELLEY LAW FIRM - DAY

A HUGE law firm. JACK DUMONDE, 30s, snaky, follows MR. DAVIS, 49, Gordon Gekko-like senior partner, down an oak-panelled hallway. Many assistants, lawyers move about.

JACK

JCL will never come to the table after a stunt like that, sir.

They turn a corner to find Kevin and Dame coming.
KEVIN HILL PILOT (GOLDENROD) 03/15/2004

KEVIN
JCL called. They caved—we’re meeting them next week.

THE MUSIC STOPS. Davis throws a look to Jack—“you were saying?” KICK THE MUSIC AGAIN, and BLEED IT INTO--

OMITTED

INT. PM CLUB - NIGHT

Packed with the hot kids from MTV. Kevin—now in throwback jersey, Diesel jeans, and lid cap, moves through the club with Dame and ANDREW KLEIN, 30, smart, sensitive wingman.

DAME
Yo, your movie star chick’s here.

Andrew indicates—and OUR CAMERA WHIPS OVER TO a very hot girl, hip huggers and wifebeater, having a drink in the corner with friends. This is EVELYN. Kevin notices. Under the following, we see the two casually exchanging glances.

DAME
What’s the play, daddy?

KEVIN
The play is...there is no play.

ANDREW
Yeah. DON’T introduce yourself. Stare at each other for months in clubs and do nothing. THAT’s the move.

The guys see Evelyn move to the bar—alone. Kevin sees. He stands, the guys give him a dap (hand slap) for luck. Kevin gets to the bar, next to Evelyn. Doesn’t look at her. Nods to the bartender for a drink. Leans forward on the bar. Evelyn steals a look at him. Kevin catches it. They both grin, chuckle to themselves.

EVELYN
He stares, he stares.

KEVIN
Here I thought that was you.

EVELYN
Maybe we’re both mistaken.

Beat. Standoff. She begins to move away, when--
KEVIN
Be a shame if we were.

EVELYN
(stops, turns, grins)
You blinked.

KEVIN
You stopped. Ain't it grand when it goes like that. Kevin Hill.

EVELYN
Evelyn...so what makes you think you can just interrupt my world?

KEVIN
Try to spread some joy, now it's an interruption.

EVELYN
Depends...define this joy.

KEVIN
Unforced and unexpected affection from unlikely sources. Or watching the Knicks with someone cool.

EVELYN
Not bad...not bad.

A beat. He sees she isn't going anywhere.

KEVIN
So I gotta get back to my boys, but-

She's surprised he's leaving, but covers. Kevin takes a napkin, scribbles something down, hands it to her.

EVELYN
Your number AND your address. Like, what, you expect me to come by TONIGHT?

(off his shrug, grin)
With most people that would come off as arrogant or desperate.

KEVIN
I'm neither. But either way, it was cool meeting you...finally.

Kevin moves off, his cool facade fades, he exhales nervously. CUT TO a table with Andrew, Dame, and TWO HOT GIRLS.
HOT GIRL #1
I have a boyfriend.

DAME
Are you mad that your boyfriend's not as cute as me?

She gets up, walks away. He shrugs--"WHAT'D I DO?" PAN OVER TO ANDREW, talking with Hot Girl #2.

ANDREW
No, it takes guts to leave a secure job as a teacher to try and become a reality-show host. I admire you--

HOT GIRL #2
Ohmigod I love this song!

She gets up and leaves. Andrew's face says "ouch!"--then he sees Dame glaring at him. Kevin joins them.

DAME
"I admire you"? What'd I tell you about trotting' out that corny-corny lame-ass Dr. Phil crap?

ANDREW
Difference between you and me, Dame--I'm actually interested in what a girl has to say.

DAME
Well hooray for you, Oprah. You can dry her tears when I send her ass back to you with a broken heart and a sore back.

ANDREW.
Idiot. Kev, you got women friends.

KEVIN
'Course.

DAME
He means ones you ain't trying to do.

KEVIN
Oh. Then no.

DAME
See, Dude? You're gay.
Andrew rolls his eyes. Kevin's cell rings.

KEVIN
Hello...Aunt Kathy! Long time no hear. How's life in Buffalo?...What about John? Look, if he needs bail again, you tell him...I'll catch the next flight...
(hangs up, to the guys)
My cousin died...

OMITTED

INT. BUFFALO LAWYER'S OFFICE - DAY

Kevin sits in front of a desk, looks at an OLD PHOTO of him and COUSIN JOHN. AUNT KATHY, 50s, sits with him. He grins at the memory, then looks at his aunt.

KEVIN
John, uh, he called couple months ago...never got back to him.

AUNT KATHY
I know.

KEVIN
(beat, changing gears)
He was skiing drunk? Who does that?

AUNT KATHY
Who leaves town at 18, becomes a lawyer, never visits or calls? Your mother--my sister--God bless the dead, she would never...
(beat, dialing back)
Where is this lawyer anyway.

PROBATE ATTORNEY enters, carrying a ten-month old baby girl. * This is SARAH.

PROBATE ATTORNEY
Sorry to keep you waiting. Paperwork's done, here you go-

He hands Kevin the baby, sits. Beat. Kevin chuckles.

KEVIN
Whose is this?

PROBATE ATTORNEY
John's. Now she's yours.
Kevin laughs—then realizes this isn’t a joke.

**KEVIN**
You’re HIGH. No—I can’t take her! I didn’t even know John HAD a kid, but I’m sure this thing has a mom. Here, take this back.

**AUNT KATHY**
A cokehead stripper who left John with the baby when she was six days old. None of us even met her.

**PROBATE ATTORNEY**
We’ve tried to locate the mother’s family. We’ve been unsuccessful.

**KEVIN**
Try harder. Someone else has to take this baby. John’s mom—

**AUNT KATHY**
She has ALZHEIMER’S. And don’t bother suggesting me, I’m 52.

**KEVIN**
I haven’t spoken to John in two years, outside of one call from Europe and one from jail. Why would he leave ME his CHILD?

**PROBATE ATTORNEY**
You were raised by a single mom, you became her caretaker when she got sick, went on to become a successful attorney...

(off Kevin’s look)
You were John’s favorite topic.

**KEVIN**
What happens... if I refuse.

**PROBATE ATTORNEY**
She’ll be turned over to the state.

**AUNT KATHY**
NO! Kevin, I’m sorry we’re a small, screwed-up family, but John left the most important thing in the world he had to YOU. You’re gonna walk away from that?
Kevin exhales, looks at the baby. She smiles. He's worried.
FADE TO BLACK.
ACT ONE

INT. PLANE - DAY

ON--Kevin, unhappy, sits next to a sleeping OVERWEIGHT GUY--too big for the seat, encroaching on Kev’s space. PULL BACK to show the BABY, in a seat next to him. He looks at her. Kevin is on his hands-free phone. INTERCUT WITH JANE, his assistant at the DDK OFFICE.

JANE
We’ve postponed JCL twice, Brett’s flipping, the Taylor pay per view fight is falling apart--

KEVIN
Fax everything to my place, I’ll be there as soon as possible. Look I need a ton of things, you can probably get it all at some, I don’t know, baby store--

JANE
Kevin--remember after we had our “thing”, the talk about me doing personal business for you--

KEVIN
This is not me asking you to pick up my dry cleaning--

JANE
Oh, like you did for a date who was NOT me the DAY AFTER we slept together?

KEVIN
How many times I gotta say sorry? I’m begging you. Just a few things--

The flight attendant comes by--

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
I told you before--you have to shut that off--NOW.

Scolded, he hangs up. Kevin looks at Sarah, who starts crying. The entire plane groans.

KEVIN
(to crowd)
I’m sorry.

(MORE)
KEVIN (cont'd)
(to attendant)
Can you hold her for a second.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Sure. I'll hold the baby. You feed
the two hundred hungry passengers.

She moves off. Kevin digs a jar of apple sauce from the
diaper bag, tries to feed the crying baby. She refuses--

KEVIN
C'mon, please--airplane...AIRPLANE!
(making airplane sounds)
EAAARRR! Tiger's gonna eat you--
RAWR!

The baby giggles, eats. Kevin realizes she likes that.

KEVIN
RAWR!
(airplane)
Eeaarr! RAWRR!

Everyone else--can hear Kevin making tiger and plane sounds.

Kevin arrives with the sleeping baby. He sets her down,
shakes his arms off--looks up--sees his place haphazardly
filled with baby stuff. Toys, industrial sized diaper boxes,
food, rocker, high chair. It blocks the TV--and all HIS toys.
He groans.
21 INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Kevin changing diapers, on speaker phone. INTERCUT WITH Jane at KEVIN'S OFFICE--as JACK noses around.

JANE
Davis asked again today, "doesn't he know he's the point person, blah blah, will you be in tomorrow?"

Kevin opens up a dirty diaper. Steps back in horror.

KEVIN
Oh my GOD. Was there a bomb in your butt? Ugh..

JANE
So I guess that would be NO.

He covers his nose and mouth, lifts her by the legs, PAWS at her butt with a wipe cloth. Looks like he will puke.

22 INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - NIGHT

Kevin, in boxers and T-shirt, carries the baby in. Realizes--

KEVIN
Forgot a crib...damn-it!

He puts her on the bed. He curls up next to her. Realizes--

KEVIN
I toss in my sleep.

Kevin looks at the baby. Doesn't want to roll over on her. Sighs. Puts her in the center of the bed. Sees her, looking up at him. Doesn't trust this. Goes to a linen closet. Finds some LARGE COMFORTERS. On the bed, a makeshift WALL around the sleeping baby, made of comforters. Grabs a blanket and pillow, sacks out on the floor--grumpy and tired.

23 INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - BEDROOM - LATE NIGHT

The baby is crying. Kevin turns on the light, groggily checks the clock. It's 2 a.m. He looks annoyed.

24 INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - KITCHEN - LATER

Kevin takes a bottle out of the microwave. Checks it on his wrist--JUMPS UP AND DOWN--it's SCORCHING! Dumps the bottle.

25 OMITTED
26  INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - NIGHT

A SERIES of QUICK CUTS of Sarah, crying, and Kevin trying different things to get her to stop and sleep.
She won't take her bottle. He pushes her stroller back and forth. He tries to make googly faces. Nothing works.

EXT. WEST VILLAGE STREET - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Kevin carries the baby outside, in a BABY FRONT-PACK. He's patting her back, the crying subsides. He looks down, sees she's FALLEN asleep. He exhales quietly.

Kevin looks across the street, at a lounge club. Through the window he sees hot girls and guys partying. He looks at himself in sweats and T-shirt. Life has changed.

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - NIGHT

SPLIT SCREEN with DIFFERENT ATTRACTIVE FEMALES Kevin's talking to on the phone.

INDIAN DOCTOR GIRL
Let's see if I get this straight.
We have sex.

REDHEAD ROCKER CHICK
You don't call for weeks.

BLACK EXECUTIVE TYPE GIRL
Then you call me out of the blue--

ASIAN DESIGNER TYPE GIRL
To watch your kid?

SURROUND KEVIN with screens of all four women.

ALL THE WOMEN
Lose my number.

They all hang up. The screens vanish. A beat.

KEVIN
I REALLY gotta get better at that calling-back thing...

REVEAL Dame and Andrew, playing PLAYSTATION.

ANDREW
Ya think?
DAME
You gotta get back to work. Jack's trying to weasel your Knicks tickets from Davis.

KEVIN
C'mon, 'Drew, your family keeps popping out kids. Get me a line on a sitter.

ANDREW
I'll ask my sister...but I can't call her till Friday.
(of their look)
I owe her money.

KEVIN
I need somebody now.

Kevin goes through the Yellow Pages. Sees an ad for a day care center.

KEVIN
Here we go. Perfect. Day care. I love this book!

He tears out the page.

31 OMITTED

32 INT. DAY CARE FACILITY - MORNING

Room full of babies, all crying. Kevin, in his suit, hands Sarah to HASMIK, 50, stern--like a USSR women's wrestler. She puts the baby, who's crying, in a playpen.

HASMIK
We don't believe in babying the children here.

KEVIN
But...they're babies.

HASMIK
She will cry and cry, then learn her crying will do no good.

He starts to move away, clearly hesitant, but he's late. She doesn't stop crying. Beat.
INT. DAVIS, DUGAN, & KELLEY - ENTRANCE HALLWAY - DAY

Kevin exits the elevator, holding Sarah, looks at her. He's simmering. Sarah is giving him "a look."

KEVIN
I didn't leave you there, did I? No--so stop looking at me like that. Your father used to do that.

He moves forward with the baby, gets to JANE'S DESK, grabs a file, looks at it-

JANE
Welcome back, you've got a room full of people waiting and they're pissed—is that spit-up on your tie?—and Mr. Davis asked when you were getting in--
(off his look)
You're a half-hour late.

Beat. He hands her the baby. Before she can protest--

KEVIN
Just for a little bit, thanks!

And he's gone. Phones ring. Sarah starts to get fussy.

INT. DAVIS, DUGAN & KELLEY — CONFERENCE ROOM — LATER

Jack and Dame sit next to Brett and his MANAGER. Across from them sit RECORD COMPANY EXECS and RECORD COMPANY LAWYER. The meeting is in full swing. Kevin enters the room in a rush. It stops when they see him.

KEVIN
Sorry.

He sees Jack sitting next to Brett—a proprietary position. Kevin moves right there. Jack doesn't move quick—till it's clear Kevin will make a scene. Jack gets up, moves over.

INT. DAVIS, DUGAN & KELLEY — ASSISTANT'S DESK — CONTINUOUS

Phones going crazy. Jane is harried, while Sarah is crying as she sits on the desk.

INT. DAVIS, DUGAN & KELLEY — CONFERENCE ROOM — CONTINUOUS

Kevin addresses the RECORD COMPANY EXEC's lawyers.
KEVIN
Look, the downloading sucking your profits excuse doesn't add up because...

We hear the baby crying in the hall.

RECORD COMPANY EXEC
Is that a baby crying in the hall?

THE BABY CRYING in the hall gets louder. JANE peeks her head in, gives Kevin an urgent look. Kevin gets up.

KEVIN
Just a second.

Kevin exits. We hear muffled arguing—"Can't you handle it?", etc., along with the baby crying. The executives look at each other, dumbfounded. Kevin comes back in.

KEVIN
Sorry. Just clearing up something with a new client.

JACK
Evidently a client that needs to be changed.

RECORD COMPANY EXEC
That's REALLY distracting--

JACK
Kev, you gotta shut that thing up--

KEVIN
What? What did you just say--

RECORD COMPANY LAWYER
Calm down---

KEVIN
Too late. Here's what it is now. No deal. We're done negotiating. Now get the hell out of here--and Jack, the next time you or anyone else refers to this baby as that thing, ahma kick your ass.

Kevin exits, leaving everyone dumbfounded.
Dame rolls the stroller back and forth with the baby in it, as Andrew makes faces, trying to stop Sarah's crying. Linkin Park plays loudly in the b.g. Kevin takes the baby, but she's crying under the following.

**DAME**

Kev, she's ADORABLE. But you told a room full of executives that you would kick their ass.

**ANDREW**

You SAID that?

Kevin looks worried. Doorbell rings. He hands Sarah to Dame, opens the door. It's GEORGE, 32. He appears and sounds gay.

**GEORGE**

Hello. (seeing his outfit) Well isn't THAT an interesting *ensemble*. Abercrombie meets Shaft. Are you Kevin Hill?

**KEVIN**

(beat, to Dame and 'Drew)

You stupid BITCHES! (to George)

Sorry you had to waste a trip all the way here, but I did NOT place a personal ad with my photo and address on HotGayDate.com, with a note to "just come on over". THOSE jackasses did. No offense, I'm straight.
GEORGE
Well now that we've cleared up that piece of foolishness--I'm George Weiss. Andrew's sister referred me, indicated you needed a nanny?

George fishes in his backpack, produces a resume for Kevin.

GEORGE
Andrew said to come by tonight.

ANDREW

KEVIN
Come in.

The baby is crying. George enters, grabs a remote, shuts off the music, asks Dame for the baby, Dame hands her off.

GEORGE
What's this? Someone had a long day, huh? You want quiet now...shhh-shh-shhh...

George sits, Sarah stops crying, curls up with him.

DAME
Three of us been trying for the last hour to do that.

GEORGE

KEVIN
(scanning resume)
Degree in child care, ten years experience, you watched Andrew's bratty nephews, so I know you're patient. You drink, smoke, do anything else I should know about?

GEORGE
Only in front of the child. Perhaps you should just call my references.

KEVIN
So you know, it's more of a babysitter, week-to week thing. *
GEORGE
Oh. Are you leasing this baby?

He sees Andrew and Dame put on their coats.

DAME
We’re out.
(explaining, off Kev’s look)
We got that Maxim Magazine party.
For the swimsuit issue?

As Dame and Andrew reach Kevin.

DAME
(trying to suppress his glee)
Bye!

Dame pats Kev’s shoulder hard, exits. Kev looks to Andrew.

ANDREW
I...I can’t get girls by myself.

Andrew slumps out the door.

KEVIN
(to George)
Hey, you wanna start right now?

GEORGE
Much as I’d do anything to support Maxim--no. Do I still get the job?

INT. KEVIN’S PLACE - KITCHEN - DAY

Kevin, suit on, finishes a bowl of Frosted Flakes. George prepares Sarah’s formula, looks in the fridge.

GEORGE
There’s nothing in here but beer, beef jerky--how old is this pizza?

KEVIN
I’ll leave loot for food. There’s two hundred menus in this drawer--they all deliver. And I Tivo’d a bunch of them gay shows from Bravo, case you get bored.
GEORGE
Yeah...you've never actually KNOWN someone gay before, have you?
KEVIN
I've--I've met--one.
(seeing him feed Sarah)
FYI, this website I found says kids her age need 2 naps a day.

GEORGE
What-A-Tip. Which I'd never have known as this is my first time ever watching a baby. Where is her crib?

KEVIN
I just sort of plop her in the bed.

GEORGE
OK, little tip for you now--babies aren't to be "plopped". She needs a crib, dear. Why wouldn't you buy that when you first got her?

KEVIN
I'll get one today--jeez, you nag like a wife. Bye.

He touches the baby's head, turns to leave, then stops.

KEVIN
Why am I stopping?

GEORGE
First time you've been without her?
(off Kevin's nod)
She'll be fine, Daddy.

KEVIN
Thanks...um, don't call me daddy.

George rolls his eyes, feeds Sarah. Kev's cell RINGS. He looks at it, surprised, grins. He moves off, answers.

KEVIN
You blinked.

INTERCUT with EVELYN, leather outfit, changing down to bra and underwear. She's on her speakerphone.

EVELYN
So I did. Sue me.

KEVIN
I make it a point never to sue movie stars who think I'm cute. What are you doing?
EVELYN
About to get dressed for my next scene.

KEVIN
About to, huh? So you're calling me, wearing, like-

EVELYN
Underwear, bra...

CUT TO KEVIN, incredulous, hanging on her words.

EVELYN
Hello?

KEVIN
(snapping out of it)

EVELYN
So I'm flying to Prague on Sunday to do this ridiculous horror movie, I'll be gone a few months--

KEVIN
Guess we should just get the sex out of the way tonight.

EVELYN
Actually, I thought Vegas. Friday. Owner of the Palms is throwing a party. We can hang for two days in my suite...what do you think?

KEVIN
I gotta pack, gotta get my ginseng--
Glad to see you ain’t letting the baby get in the way of the bootie.

Kevin stops dead in his tracks, suddenly remembering.

You forgot about the kid?

Movie star--IN HER UNDERWEAR.

They pass Jane’s desk, as Jack is walking by.

Mr. Davis wants to know if you’re free for drinks at Nobu tonight.

Great...how ya doin’, Jack.

Kevin moves past Jack—we see Jack grin, KNOWING something.

Kevin has just let in Davis, they move to the living room. The place is trashed with baby stuff and mess.

Let me say again I’m sorry I couldn’t make it out for drinks. My sitter had some...yoga kaballah...knitting with your partner...crap tonight.

Lot of life changes in a week.

Nothing I can’t handle.

You sure about th--

I just got her to sleep, can we--

He moves Davis over to the kitchen. Beat.

I don’t normally visit the homes of my associates. So know that you mean a lot to me.

(MORE)
KEVIN HILL  PILOT  (GOLDENROD)  03/15/2004  22.

DAVIS (cont'd)
I want to help you...I've re-assigned some of your cases to Jack Dumonde.

KEVIN
(laughs, then realizes)
The baby...is temporary.

DAVIS
Then temporarily, I need him to carry the weight. Last few days you've been late, exhausted, unfocused--I can't afford another meeting like that with Brett. He nearly left us.

KEVIN
I'm the one that GOT us Brett--

DAVIS
You nearly missed filing the Smith motion. If Jack hadn't covered you, the statute would've expired, we could've been sued for malpractice.

KEVIN
...I know it's been rough with me adjusting to this, but I swear I'll get better. Please don't do this--

DAVIS
I know you're upset. But this is a team, Kevin. I'm the coach. I've made my call.

KEVIN
...then I quit the team.

DAVIS
I came here in person. I knew you'd be emotional, I didn't want to do it front of others...I don't want you to quit. But if that's the card you're playing--

KEVIN
I'm not playing.

DAVIS
...good night, Kevin.

Davis leaves. What Kevin's just done hits him, Kevin sits--hears a SQUEAK, realizes he sat on the baby's rubber duck. Angrily, looks at it, throws it. Anger fades to "oh shit".
45 OMITTED
ACT TWO

45A INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - DAY

Kevin changes Sarah. Dame shoots pool.

DAME
Need to stop playing Mr. Mom, call Davis, get your job back. Tell him you went to see that adoption lawyer.

KEVIN
I didn’t.

(off Dame’s look)
It’s John’s kid.

DAME
Lotta hits you’re taking for a cousin you never mention much.
What, he give you one of his kidneys?

KEVIN
(chuckles, then)
When I was 17, we borrowed a car from our other cousin to scoop these girls. Cops pull us over, turns out there’s a gun in the car.

DAME
Uh-oh.

KEVIN
For real. Cops say I’m not taking two guys down for one gun, you guys decide whose it is. I figure, we’re both goin’ down, neither one of us is gonna cop to it. I’m scared. John figures... Kev’s got scholarships... he did two years. He... he was nuts.

(then)
Screw Davis. I’ll get another job.

46 OMITTED
MONTAGE - INT. VARIOUS LAWYERS OFFICES - DAY

A LAWYER faces Kevin.

HIRING LAWYER #1

We love you. But we're downsizing.

SECOND INTERVIEW.

HIRING LAWYER #2

You're exactly what we need. Too bad we can't afford you.

THIRD INTERVIEW.

HIRING LAWYER #3

I spoke to Joseph Davis this morning. He says you're a brilliantly talented lawyer. (leaning forward)

Who lately is prone to emotional outbursts, nearly lost a client, and is trying to balance baby and work un成功fully.

EXT. BROWNSTONE OFFICE - DAY

West Village. Kevin, in his suit, wearing the defeat of the past week, checks the address, heads in. Last resort.

INT. GREY AND ASSOCIATES - CONTINUOUS

He enters--it's SMALL. Three assistants, a paralegal. Mostly women. Attractive. Where Kevin's old office was HUGE and traditional, this one's MUCH SMALLER, with a homey, hip feel. Kevin doesn't look happy. He goes to an assistant's desk, where a pretty, slightly mousy girl, 20s, looks for something in the drawer. This is NICOLETTE RAYE.

KEVIN

Excuse me?
Nicolette looks up—sees how handsome he is, and startled, she drops the pencils she held. He goes down, helps her pick them up. She won't make eye contact for more than 5 seconds.

KEVIN
Sorry 'bout this--is this Grey and Associates?

NICOLETTE
Yes...

KEVIN
How many people work here?

NICOLETTE
Um... well, a-about seven--

KEVIN
There's only seven lawyers here?

NICOLETTE
Oh, you meant lawyers, well, in, in that case, um... three.

KEVIN
(unhappy)
THREE---TOTAL? Great. Can you point me to Jessie Grey?

A beat, and she points to an office.

KEVIN
Thank you.

He moves off, then moves back, handing her the pencils. He moves off. She watches him, attracted, down about it.

NICOLETTE
Don't mention it...

She exhales, feels like kicking herself, moves off.

INT. GREY AND ASSOCIATES - JESSIE'S OFFICE - DAY

Jessie's office is a mix of homey and professional. Black and white photos of a little boy. Jessie, Donna Karan suit, sits on a couch, across from Kevin, goes over his resume. He steals a look at her legs. She sees--doesn't call him on it.

JESSIE
Your record is, in a word, excellent.

(MORE)
JESSIE (cont'd)
Which leads me to ask why a rising star leaves a top five firm in the middle of his ascent.

KEVIN
I've had a family situation, I--

Kevin's phone rings. Loudly. He checks it.

KEVIN
I'm sorry--
(answering it)
George, I'm in a...she'll take the medicine if you make tiger and plane sounds while you give it to...tiger and plane sounds combined.

He listens, then exhales, embarrassed—Kevin makes tiger and airplane sounds combined. Jessie suppresses a smile.

KEVIN
(hangs up, embarrassed)
She likes that when she eats. See, my cousin passed away, he left me his ten-month old baby, but I stress, she won't be a problem, because very soon--

JESSIE
You took in your cousin's baby after he passed? And you're single?
(off Kevin's nod)
Wow...you know I'm a single parent too. My son's three. I started this firm to structure my own time, and thank God, because now I have him...nothing more rewarding, huh?

KEVIN
(beat, playing it up)
Nothing at all.

51
INT. GREY AND ASSOCIATES - OBSERVATION ROOM - MOMENTS LATER 51
Jessie and Kevin move to a room, look in.

JESSIE
We're small because I've been extremely selective about the lawyers I've hired. The two other women here? Franchise players.
Jessie and Kevin look into a conference room--where Nicolette sits across from THREE OPPOSING MALE LAWYERS, who dwarf her.
KEVIN
Why's the assistant in there?

Jessie grins. They watch on.

OPPOSING MALE LAWYER
Our client can't afford and won't pay the alimony. Small firm here. You want to waste your billable hours on a client--

NICOLETTE
Please shut up.
(off his look)
Sorry, just lots of useless talk makes my neck itch. I'll be concise. I know your client's shopping to merge her company.

Before he can speak--

NICOLETTE
AND--she's got a very handsome aspiring actor she's supporting.--Yeah--I know about that too. So here it is: if, by five p.m., she doesn't have a check ready for her ex-husband, not only will I quash any move she makes with her company, I'll do it for free--just to fry her fat ass. Make me wait till six, I'll show you what else I can do with my scant billable hours.

Off the other attorneys--eating shit. Off Kevin, impressed--

INT. GREY AND ASSOCIATES' - MAIN FLOOR - LATER

Jessie introduces Kevin to Nicolette.

JESSIE
Nicolette Raye--the best lawyer we have.
Kevin extends his hand, she takes it, smiles shyly.

KEVIN
Stealth bomber, nobody sees you coming. Impressive.

They shake hands—she’s shy, smitten—when VERONICA CARTER, 20s, enters. Beautiful, sweet, smart diva in training.

VERONICA
Nic, do you have the—Kevin?

JESSIE
You’ve met?

VERONICA
Once. KEVIN
Once.

Nicolette sees the uncomfortable look between the two of them—picks up there’s something—looks slightly disheartened.

NICOLETTE
I have court...nice meeting you....

Kevin grins, she exits.

JESSIE
Kevin’s joining us from DDK. Let’s bring him up to speed on Tate.
(to Kevin)
Welcome again.

Jessie leaves. Kevin and Veronica exchange an uncomfortable look—She doesn’t like him here. She exits.

52A
INT. GREY AND ASSOCIATES – VERONICA’S OFFICE – MOMENTS LATER

KNICKS and GIANTS paraphernalia—as well as A DUKE BASKETBALL banner. Veronica grabs a file, sits. Kevin enters.

VERONICA
Just so you know, Nicolette and I pretty much have this covered—

KEVIN
I’m just the male body at the end of the table, huh—you like Duke?

VERONICA
Yes. On both counts.
KEVIN
Look, if you're aggravated with me, you should know, I thought that night was hot to death. I DID call you after. You never called back.

VERONICA
I know.

KEVIN
Good, then—-wait, you got my message AND you didn’t call back? You blew me off?

VERONICA
Jessie said you were bright. Now--

KEVIN
Why?...Just out of curiosity.

VERONICA
Call it... a happy hour aberration. I know what you’re about. For one night, that’s what I wanted. Can we move on now?

KEVIN
_FINE._

VERONICA
Robin Tate. She does sports promotions. A month ago, she was sexually assaulted at a club on Bleeker by a pro athlete. She managed to get away, but---

KEVIN
Wait—the guy—Sean Reynolds? Major-league baseball pitcher Sean Reynolds?

VERONICA
His full name. Friend of yours?

KEVIN
_FINE._

VERONICA
Your point being?
KEVIN

It's a lousy case. You couldn't find a single witness, straight-up he-said she said. But HE's popular, handsome, rich--

VERONICA

--and rumored to have done this to at least three other women.

KEVIN

Operative word being RUMOR. I don't buy that story, and I damn well don't buy hers."

VERONICA

You don't have to. You're just the male body at the end of table.

(handing him the file)

Welcome to the firm.
ACT THREE

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - DAY

ON--Sarah, in the new crib with a stuffed lion. She's crying. Kevin cajoles her to stop. Dame and Andrew shoot a game of pool. Dame heads to the fridge.

DAME
So. Do they make you pee sittin' down over there?

KEVIN
One week. I'll run that place.
(to baby)
C'mon, sweetie, PLEASE. Don't you wanna stay in bed?

ANDREW
Does that work when girls say that to you?

Beat. Kevin takes the baby out of the crib, she stops crying. Dame opens the fridge--there's only baby formula.

DAME
Six hundred baby bottles, not one Heineken...
DAME (CONT’D)
This is really startin’ to suck.
(off Kevin’s look)
Gay nanny, crazy baby house, can’t
go out no more, you’re working for
chicks on that girl’s loser case—

KEVIN
What makes you so sure it’s a dog?

DAME
Ask Andrew. His office didn’t even
move on a criminal charge.

ANDREW
Not enough evidence. DA can’t
afford another high-profile loss. I
thought we could’ve gone forward.

DAME
That’s because YOU’RE A WOMAN. You
know how many lawyers Davis has on
Reynolds? Ten. No way you win, and
when you lose, your rep is trashed.

KEVIN
I don’t plan on losing.

DAME
Davis wants you back.

(off Kevin’s look)
Yeah. Came to me—“talk to your
boy.” You’ll probably even get a
bump out of it. But if you push
away his outstretched hand, you go
against him, the man will remember.

Kevin considers it for a second, then—
KEVIN
Let him. Especially since he has the gall to put Jack Dumonde on it.

DAME
Jack's not the lead on it.

KEVIN
Aw c'mon...he made YOU lead? You don't see what he's doing, Dame?

DAME
Least I'm working for a client I believe...and sorry, but I'm gonna bring it. Now I'm goin' for a beer.

Dame walks out of the house. Off Kevin and Andrew--

INT. GREY AND ASSOCIATES - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Kevin, Veronica, and Nic sit around ROBIN TATE, 26, alleged victim, looking a little too sexy. They prep her testimony.

ROBIN
I had to get some more of the swag bags in the back.

FLASHBACK - INT. LOTUS NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT


ROBIN (V.O.)
He followed me.

FLASHBACK - INT. LOTUS NIGHTCLUB BACK HALL - LATER

Robin collecting swag bags, as Sean enters. HE LOCKS the door. He moves in to kiss her. She's CAUGHT off-guard--

ROBIN
It caught me by surprise, once I got my bearing I tried to stop...

RESUME - GREY AND ASSOCIATES CONFERENCE ROOM.

ROBIN
I said no. It was like he couldn't hear me.

(MORE)
ROBIN (cont'd)
I tried to shove him away, but he was too strong and he just got angry--

RESUME FLASHBACK - Robin tries to extricate herself, Sean pushes in, grabs her breast--HARD. She tries to moves his hand away--he won’t move. She tries to push him back, he gets rougher, grabs her ass, pulls her into him, grinding.

ROBIN (V.O.)
--and I could feel his hands pulling at my clothes...I wanted to shout but I couldn’t move...I thought...he’s actually going to do this to me...then, finally--

Robin wrestles free. He forces her HARD into a counter. She’s trapped for a moment, but she manages to escape--

RESUME CONFERENCE ROOM Robin wipes her eyes. Veronica hands Kevin photos of Robin’s wrists and back--bruised.

VERONICA
Taken at the police station.

KEVIN
Were you at all intoxicated?

ROBIN
I had a few drinks, but I was fine.

KEVIN
Anyone see him get rough with you?

ROBIN
"Get rough"—he would’ve raped me.

KEVIN
Anyone see?

ROBIN
No--

KEVIN
How long did it take you to push him away when he kissed you?

ROBIN
I don’t know...I tried--

KEVIN
How long did it take you to try?
ROBIN
I wasn't timing it.

KEVIN
HIS story is you flirted all night with him, you were drunk, you followed him to the back, YOU came onto him, and when he told you he's not interested, you got mad and wouldn't let him LEAVE.

ROBIN
That's a lie!

KEVIN
YOUR story--you went back there, you flirted with him, you had a few drinks, you did kiss him, then the nicest man in all of baseball mauls the hell out of you in a busy club yet no one sees a thing. How much are you asking for again?

Robin is humiliated and angry. Nic and Veronica glare at Kev.

INT. GREY & ASSOCIATES - ADJOINING CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER
Nicolette and Veronica follow Kevin in, angrily.

VERONICA
You forget what side you're on?

NICOLETTE
That grilling wasn't your job, Kevin. She could walk out and we've spent a lot of hours on this--

KEVIN
More reason to make sure she's not hanging you out like laundry.

VERONICA
Here's a clue--this isn't just a contingency fee--we BELIEVE her.

KEVIN
Why? Crocodile tears from the woman and you're sold? This ain't a Lifetime movie. "Of course he must've done it--he's an athlete--AND a GUY."
VERONICA
(paraphrasing men)
"He can have any woman, why would he feel the need to take it from someone who said no." You're a sucker for a fastball and a shoe commercial.

Jessie enters the room, concerned--

JEFF
What's going on?

VERONICA
You wanted a guy, you got a guy.

NICOLETTE
Kevin went at Robin a little hard, but it did reveal some blind spots.

JEFF
(to Kevin)
You think this is a lousy case.
(off Kevin's look)
Going to trial might seem risky to you, Kevin, but not to us, because we'll win. We're THAT good. What do you think would've happened to her if she hadn't gotten out of that room? If that was your girlfriend, your sister, your DAUGHTER...

Jessie gets an idea, turns to the women.

JEFF
He should first chair.

That takes them by surprise--and not in a good way.

NICOLETTE
Jess--

JEFF
Jury's split between men and women. We run with him, it's not "women with an axe to grind." Isn't that the smarter play?

A beat. They accept it--VERY grudgingly.

JEFF
(to the women)
Give us a second.
Veronica and Nicolette exit.

    KEVIN
    I didn't know better, I'd say you played me.

    JESSIE
    Oh, this from the
    "Sensitive Man With Child?"

Kevin realizes she was in on his game.

    JESSIE
    Perhaps there was manipulation on both ends. It's STILL the right move.
    (then)
    Finish prepping Robin.

Jessie moves off. Off Kevin---

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - NIGHT

George, laughing, as he gets his things, ready to leave. Kevin follows him around.

    GEORGE
    You kept me late every night this week. I have plans, NO.

    KEVIN
    George, this is not the average everyday chick. She's this really hot actress chick and she's leaving-
GEORGE
Poor wittle boy no gonna get movie stah bootie? Him a sad wittle boy!

KEVIN
Now was that necessary? I'm just looking for some help.

GEORGE
My dear boy, you're looking for a wife--so that you can have fun with your mistress in Vegas.
KEVIN
I didn't ask for this hand. I'm playing it the best I can.

GEORGE
No—you're not. You can't bluff, fold and call all at the same time. You have to choose. You don't want Sarah? Fine. But as long as she is yours, something has to give. I don't think it's going to be her.

George leaves. He calls after him--

KEVIN
Well thank you, Dr. Metaphor!

OMITTED

INT. NY COURTHOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Kevin, Veronica, Nic and Robin make their way into court. MEDIA and PHOTOGRAPHERS snap away, holler questions.

INT. NY COURTROOM - DAY

Kevin, Veronica, and Nic on one side. Sean Reynolds with FIVE DDK lawyers, including JACK on the other. A full jury. JUDGE CROWE presides. DAME on cross. Robin is on the stand.

DAME
The DA wouldn't prosecute this case because there wasn't enough evidence to go forward, correct?

NICOLETTE
Objection. Is SHE the DA?

JUDGE CROWE
Sustained.

DAME
C'mon, let's be honest. You're here because my client has money.

ROBIN
No. YOU'RE here because your client has money.

That surprises Dame, elicits titters from the jury. Veronica looks at Kevin--knows now there was another level to what he was doing the day before.
DAME
Do you know Mark Spellman?

Veronica and Nic turn to Kevin—who’s that? Kevin’s already cringing—he knows.

ROBIN
He...he used to play for the New York Knicks.

DAME
Did you sleep with him?

Veronica is about to stand to object, when Kevin GRABS her hand, brings her back down. She shoots him a look that could MURDER. He mouths to her—“NO.” Beat.

ROBIN
We were in a relationship.

DAME
What did Mark give you for Valentine’s Day?

ROBIN
Earrings.

DAME
Two carat diamond earrings, yes?

ROBIN
Yes.

DAME
Nice. And when you dated...Vladimir Lendl from the LA Kings, he get you something cute for your birthday?

ROBIN
A watch.

DAME
A Cartier.

ROBIN
I didn’t ask for...yes.

DAME
So you go after athletes, they give nice things. You go after my client, he didn’t give you anything, you come here to get it.
NICOLETTE
Objection!

DAME
That's OK. Withdrawn.

Dame moves back to table. He and Kevin exchange a look. Veronica looks at Kevin—daggers.

64
INT. COURTHOUSE HALLWAY - LATER

Kevin turns a corner, followed by Veronica, Nic and Robin—trying to be private—

VERONICA
Don't you ever, EVER do that to me!
You let him RATTLE her--

KEVIN
--with circumstantial trash that
the jury will see through and will
BACKFIRE on him. You object, you'd
show WE were rattled too.

NICOLETTE
He's right.

Veronica is surprised that Nic concurs—and because of her respect for Nicolette's talent, dials down.

NICOLETTE
Don't ever do that again, Kevin.

KEVIN
(acknowledges that, then)
Why didn't you tell us about the other athletes, Robin?

ROBIN
Would you have taken my case if I did? No. You'd say I was just some slut looking for a check—or some EARRINGS. You know I'm gonna lose my job over this.

VERONICA
They can't fire you because of the suit, Robin. You're protected.

ROBIN
They don't have to fire me. They just have to make my life miserable until I hate myself and I quit.
KEVIN

So then why ARE you here?

ROBIN

That son-of-a-bitch, what he DID to me...I have a SON, OK? I...

They notice people watching, dial it down. She’s overcome with emotion, turns away, moves to the window.

ROBIN

News breaks that the DA is dropping my case, next day my son, my baby comes home—busted lip, nose bleeding. I ask him— who did this to you, sweetheart? He looks at me, and he says, “Why are you lying about Sean Reynolds?”

(wipes her eyes)

I bust my ass for him, HE believes SEAN. I’m all he’s got, You tell me, how am I supposed to raise him when he’s stopped believing in me.

Kevin moves to Robin, who doesn’t want to face him. His face reflects he’s made a turn, he believes her.

65

OMITTED

65A

INT. COURTHOUSE HALLWAY - DAY

Andrew, in his suit, walks. Kevin catches up to him.

KEVIN

Hey, what you said the other night, about how your boss should’ve moved on the Robin Tate case?

ANDREW

You’ve seen my business card?

Assistant D.A. Not my call.

KEVIN

Something made you believe her.

ANDREW

Not enough to hang a case on.

KEVIN

So it’s not a witness...

(realizing)

There’s another girl.
ANDREW
She won't talk.

KEVIN
She won't talk to YOU.

ANDREW
This girl won't testify, Kev. She wants this thing behind her. You subpoena her, try to force her on the stand, she'll disappear.

KEVIN
Maybe....I just get her NEAR the stand.

ANDREW
Judge is gonna eat you for lunch.
(beat)
And you're gonna bug me till I give you that name, huh?

Kevin smiles.

OMITTED

OMITTED

OMITTED

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Chaos. We hear SARAH CRYING OS. A game on TV. Kevin enters, carrying Sarah, puts her on the couch.

KEVIN
Gotta learn to stay in the crib.

She cries. He goes the kitchen, cooks chicken while studying the casefile. THE PHONE RINGS. He rushes, gets the phone.

KEVIN
Hello?

FEMALE ASSISTANT'S VOICE
Mr. Hill? I'm Evelyn's assistant, calling to confirm Vegas Friday.

He moves, accidently hits the pan of chicken, knocks it to the floor.
Goes down, but the file drops into the grease--grease-covered pages everywhere. He reaches for them--pulls his hand back quick--burned!

KEVIN
Son-of-a-bitch!
(a beat, into phone)
Tell Ev I'm sorry. I can't make it.

Kevin, place trashed, work on the floor in a greasy mess. Then suddenly, he hears the baby cry LOUDLY--louder than usual. Sees she FELL OFF the couch. Rushes to her. Picks her up, checks her out--she's OK. She's frightened more than hurt--and he's PETRIFIED.

KEVIN
You OK? It's OK...OK...

He looks defeated, scared to tears.
ACT FOUR
INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Kevin and George in their usual morning routine--George feeding Sarah. Kevin eats cereal while looking at his greased-stained pages. He shakes his head, doesn't finish his cereal. Sits there. George notices the grease paper.

GEORGE
You wrap fish in that?

Kevin is too beat to respond. George notices, sits with him.

GEORGE
You want some coffee?

KEVIN
(unconvincing)
I'm fine...

GEORGE
New baby, new job, big case... you certainly are the master juggler.

KEVIN
Used to be fun... when it was just women... when I worked for Davis... I could've gone BACK...

GEORGE
And Sarah would never see you.

KEVIN
Yeah well... maybe Sarah... might be better off with two parents more... qualified...

Beat. George gets up, prepares coffee.

GEORGE
Suddenly now you're not qualified. So the whole Mr. Successful I Can Do Anything schtick is a fraud?

KEVIN
Hey--I got myself through my neighborhood. Law school. I taught myself how to think. Fight. About girls. Success. And I shouldn't have made it, but I did.

(MORE)
KEVIN (cont'd)
Not ONCE in all that time was I afraid of what happened if I didn't make it, if I messed up. Not ONCE.

GEORGE
Because you were brave.

KEVIN
Because I didn't care. I came from nothing, I had nothing to lose—so I had no fear. Ain't nothing life can throw my way that I can't recover from, but, but she's so... TINY and... something ever happened to HER, I, uh...

He exhales.

GEORGE
And that, my dear boy, is why you're qualified.

George places the thermos in front of him. Kevin looks up, He takes the coffee.

KEVIN
Thanks, man.

He's appreciative. Kevin moves off. Returns.

KEVIN
This doesn't mean you, like, LIKE me, right?

GEORGE
Please. Please. PLEASE—go to WORK.

Kevin leaves. George feeds Sarah.

71
INT. NY COURTHOUSE - DAY

Sean Reynolds on the stand. Kevin's cross. Veronica and Robin at the plaintiff table.

SEAN
It happens. You try to be friendly to all the fans and occasionally someone takes it the wrong way.

KEVIN
And that's what happened the night in question? She took your "friendliness" the wrong way?
KEVIN
Sure seems like it.

SEAN
So her testimony, that you trapped her in a back room, assaulted her, forced your hand down her skirt?

SEAN
It didn’t happen. I’ve never gotten rough with a woman in my life. I’m not that guy.

Kevin turns to the back of the court, sees Nicolette standing near the door. She nods at him. Kevin turns back to Sean. Dame senses something’s going on.

KEVIN
Do you see the woman in the last row? Aisle seat? On the left.

Everyone turns to look towards the back of the room, where TIFFANY MOLINARO, pretty, late 20s, sits. Kevin’s the only one who doesn’t look. His eyes are on Sean—who reacts, clearly recognizing her.

KEVIN
You need some water, Mr. Reynolds?

SEAN
I’m fine.

KEVIN
Do you recognize the woman?

SEAN
Tiffany...something.

KEVIN
Molinaro. Tiffany Molinaro.

Dame jumps up, full battle mode. Kevin’s ready for him-
DAME
Objection! If plaintiff intends to call her as a witness... it's a clear violation of a court order to exclude all potential witnesses--

KEVIN
-it's impeachment evidence, your honor... I'm not calling her as a witness--

JUDGE CROWE
Both of you. Sit.
[to Kevin]
This looks like a stunt, Counselor. You may continue, but I'm warning you; tread carefully.

KEVIN
Mr. Reynolds, did you ever date Tiffany Molinaro?

SEAN
I think we went out once. We met at a club after a home game.

KEVIN
How did the night end?

SEAN
I dropped her off at her house, and kissed her good night.

KEVIN
It didn't end at an emergency room--

DAME
Your honor, he's badgering--

KEVIN
Isn't it true, when she refused to have sex with you, you smacked her in the face, loosened two of her teeth--

JUDGE CROWE
Counselor--

SEAN
What do you guys, just make this stuff up?

KEVIN
(reaching into briefcase)
Would you like to see photographs taken at the hospital that night?

JUDGE CROWE
That's enough! Approach.
A glare at each other, then Kevin and Dame approach the judge, tempers flaring.

DAME
(to Kevin)
You got no evidence, so you sling mud at my client?
KEVIN
Your client beats up women. THAT'S who you're working for.

JUDGE CROWE
I am all out of patience, Mr. Hill. Do you intend to put this witness on the stand?

KEVIN
The witness did not want to walk into this room, your honor. She wants to put this behind her.

JUDGE CROWE
Do you have police reports to substantiate her claims?

KEVIN
No, but--

JUDGE CROWE
Enough. I'm going to instruct the jury to disregard all testimony regarding Tiffany Molinaro.

KEVIN
Your honor--

JUDGE CROWE
You've got two choices. Tell me you're done with this witness and sit your ass down, or I dismiss this case and hold you in contempt. What'll it be?

INT. GREY AND ASSOCIATES - KEVIN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Kevin hasn't set up his stuff. Boxes on the floor. He paces, bounces a basketball, working on his closing. Veronica enters.

VERONICA
Love what you've done with the place.

Beat. Kevin hands her a piece of paper.
KEVIN
Bullet points for your summation. You can still minimize damage to your client, protect from a countersuit.

She looks them over, hands them back.

VERONICA
Looks good. But you’re closing.

KEVIN
After the stellar job I’ve done so far?

VERONICA
Case was always a long shot. You got Tiffany Molinaro into that courtroom.

KEVIN
Which the judge instructed the jury to disregard.

VERONICA
She can instruct all she wants. The jury’s not going to forget that look on his face.

KEVIN
I still lost it in there. That’s never happened to me before.

VERONICA
Game clock’s still running, you act like you’re headed to the locker room...just...just close strong tomorrow.

We see she’s made a little turn. She leaves. Off Kevin--

Kevin sits on the bed, sweats and T-shirt, legal pad with his closing in one hand. The baby is asleep next to him in bed. He looks at her. She’s still. A bit concerned, he leans in, checks her breathing, putting his hand close to her mouth, then his face. Feels her breath---she’s fine. Beat. He sits back, puts the legal pad down, watches her sleep.
INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Dame, closing.

DAME
I don’t know about you, but I’m tired of seeing our heroes and role models become targets for big game gold-diggers. Here are the facts. Robin Tate was drunk. My client wasn’t. She was kissing him. He wanted to stop. All of this took place in a club full of witnesses, none of whom saw anything resembling an assault that night. Ask yourselves this—why would he even ATTEMPT that, knowing what he has to lose? On the other hand, knowing what she has to gain, why wouldn’t Robin Tate make up a little fib and take it to the bank?

(then)
Your job here? A simple one. Let the people who would prey on those who inspire us know that the ATM is closed.

TIME CUT: Kevin, closing.

KEVIN
Is Robin Tate suing for a lot of money? Yes. Is she suing for enough? Not by a long shot. How do you get a guy—a privileged, protected guy—who attacks women to change his behavior? You make it so expensive for him that he has NO choice. She’s suing for a lot of money so that Sean Reynolds thinks twice before he backs the next woman into a dark corner.

(then, to jury)
The easiest thing in the world would have been for Robin Tate to drop this case. She has paid a price just for being here. She’s probably going to lose her job, her privacy, her life as she knew it before is OVER. So why come to court? Because she has a son.

(MORE)
KEVIN (cont'd)
And when she goes home at night, she needs to be able to tell him that no one can hurt his mom—or him, just because they have money. You want a hero? Start THERE.
(really about him)
Sometimes there's nothing more terrifying than responsibility...but let's not run from ours. You let him go, the next time it could be your wife, your sister, your daughter...
(then, standing behind Robin)
I love sports. That said, I too would ask you to let the people who would prey upon those who inspire us...let him and everyone else know what he did is not OK.

Kevin sits. DAVIS sees the faces of the JURY—CLEARLY MOVED. He moves, whisper to DAME and JACK, who respond DEJECTEDLY, then look to Kevin. Kevin sees what's up--

INT. COURTHOUSE HALLWAY - DAY

Dame hands Kevin a slip of paper. Kevin looks at it, nods.

DAME
So now Davis is your enemy.

KEVIN
Every hero's got one.

Dame nods, moves away.

KEVIN
You still pissed?

DAME
(stops, turns, beat)
I just miss working with you, man.
(moving off, with a grin)
You're still a bitch.

KEVIN
You're still MY bitch--BITCH.

They share a chuckle, Dame's gone. Kevin walks over to Robin, hands her the slip of paper. She looks at it, looks at Kev, pleasantly shocked. Nic and Veronica with her.
ROBIN
Is this for real?
KEVIN
And he'll make a statement saying he's sorry for the pain this has caused you. Doesn't have the teeth of "I did it", but you show it to your boy, he has any more questions, have him give me a call.

Beat. She's so happy, she hugs Kevin--which surprises him.

ROBIN
Here I thought you were an ass.

Kevin takes in a different feeling of winning--a better one. He shakes Nicolette's.

NICOLETTE
Nice...nice job.

Beat. Veronica extends her hand. Kevin takes it.

KEVIN
Anything to touch me, huh?

She pulls away her hand, rolls her eyes.

OMITTED

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - NIGHT

Kevin in the kitchen, as he's cooking dinner and making formula. NOW he's organized and working smoothly.

KEVIN
Dinner almost ready, bottle nearly done, game time...baby is--Sarah?

Panicked, he looks in the bathroom, by the stairs--not there!

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

He runs into the bedroom---sees she's in her crib. Playing with a toy basketball. Kevin sighs with relief, picks her up. He's almost shaking, holds her tight, he was so scared.

KEVIN
Oh God...I'm sorry, I'm so sorry...
I was cooking, I forgot I put you in here, you were crying...and now you're not...you like your crib?
(puts her back in crib)

(MORE)
KEVIN (cont'd)
Wow...what a good girl...you DO
like your crib...wanna stay there?

She's fine. But he's still worked up, so he picks her up,
holds her, to calm his nerves. The doorbell rings.

INT. KEVIN'S PLACE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Holding the baby, Kevin opens the door--it's EVELYN.

EVELYN
You know I'm a movie star, right?
No one's ever cancelled a date on me. EVER--
(suddenly noticing baby)
--are you MARRIED?

KEVIN
This is Sarah.

EVELYN
Are you baby-sitting?

KEVIN
Little more long term than that. I
kind of...inherited her. I was
going to tell you...I've just been
so swamped trying to handle both
her and maintain some semblance of
my life as it was, right? And, uh,
what I'm seeing...is that the life
I had is pretty much gone...and she
refuses to be handled, because, NOW-

EVELYN
She IS your life.

MUSIC CUE: Musiq Soulchild's "Something". He feels good about
that--and terrified. A beat.

EVELYN
My assistant could baby-sit...

KEVIN
I just got her used to her
crib...but you could stay, I...
(then, seeing she won't)
I understand. Vegas beckons.

EVELYN
(beat)
I'll be back in a few months...
He nods. A beat. She moves in slowly, they give each other a soft kiss on the lips. Sarah sees, touches Kevin's face.

EVELYN
Lucky girl.

Kevin grins. Evelyn leaves. Beat. He closes the door. THE MUSIC CONTINUES, as he carries baby to the couch, sits her next to him. He looks unhappy.

KEVIN
Haven't been home on a Friday night since I was twelve.
(realizing, slight grin)
With your Dad.

Beat. He puts her on his lap, grabs TV remote. Flips to ESPN.

KEVIN
Let's see how our Knicks are doing tonight, shall we?

The music swells, and we close, off Kevin and Sarah, watching the Knicks, together.

FADE TO BLACK.