

**UNTITLED**

"Pilot"

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"PILOT"

COLD OPEN - PART 1

FADE IN:

INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - COMMUNITY MEETING - NIGHT

HAILEY BURKE, 31, ADDRESSES A SMALL CROWD AT A TALK-TO-THE-COUNCILPERSON MEETING. AT HER SIDE IS HER CHIEF OF STAFF, RHONDA NICHOLS (40-PLUS, ALWAYS HOLDING PAPERS).

HAILEY

...This is the first bill from City Council that bears my name and I couldn't be more proud. This bill mandates that the School District cap elementary school class size at twenty-two students, starting this fall!

SHE EXPECTS BIG APPLAUSE, BUT INSTEAD GETS A SMALL SMATTER.

HAILEY (CONT'D)

(GAMELY) ...Thanks. Both of you. Alright, I'm sure some of you have questions.

SEVERAL PEOPLE LINE UP AT THE MIC. FIRST UP IS A SCOWLING MIDDLE-AGED GUY, LOADED FOR BEAR. HE READS FROM A CLIPBOARD.

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

Yeah! I own DeMarco's, the pizza shop across from City Hall, and I depend on trash pick-up twice a week. I understand, young lady, you intend to cut that back to once a week.

HAILEY

That's right. That's where the money comes from to pay for smaller class sizes and a better education for our kids. (POINTS TO THE NEXT PERSON) You, Ma'am, in the very pretty pink blouse.

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

YO! Did I say I was done? (READING FROM CLIPBOARD) How can we take seriously any legislation that comes from a chippie like you?

HAILEY

(STIFF SMILE) Chippie? Really?

SHE GLANCES OVER TO RHONDA.

RHONDA

(SOTTO) Let 'im go. High road.

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

Everybody knows you only got elected 'cause your father was a Senator and you ran on the name!

LOUD WOMAN

Give her a break! She won!

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

Her daddy prob'ly rigged it! Besides, what's she done for the last ten years besides party hearty and take her clothes off? You all remember this?

HE HOLDS UP A MAXIM MAGAZINE, CIRCA 2000, WITH A SCANTILY CLAD HAILEY ON THE COVER.

MIDDLE-AGED GUY (CONT'D)

*The Girls of DC?* Here's your Council Woman!

HAILEY

Ah yes, my old friend the Maxim cover -- no one's shown me that in days. Y'know, Sir, I've got some pictures of you in a swimsuit. But I'm going to show restraint.

APPRECIATIVE LAUGHTER FROM THE CROWD AND A SUBTLE "ATTA GIRL" NOD FROM RHONDA.

HAILEY (CONT'D)

(POINTS AGAIN) Pink Blouse.

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

Okay, you been keepin' your clothes on lately but what about a certain little family financial scandal? I mean, how do we trust another Burke with our money? That was one helluva Fonzy Scheme!

HAILEY

I believe it's Ponzi, Sir.

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

You'd know. True or false: your sister went to jail and your brother-in-law's a fugitive somewhere.

(MORE)

MIDDLE-AGED GUY (CONT'D)

How do we know you don't have a piece of that whole thing?

HAILEY

What my brother-in-law and my sister did with their company was awful. But that's not me. Let me ask the room: does anybody else here have a relative they're not exactly proud of?

EVERYBODY'S HANDS GO UP.

HAILEY (CONT'D)

Whew. It's not just me.

PEOPLE IN THE CROWD LAUGH. RHONDA NODS.

LOUD WOMAN

(AT THE MIDDLE-AGED GUY) And she took in their kids! Two of 'em! What do you think of that?

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

I think I want trash delivery twice a week!

HAILEY

I can't give you that. But what I can promise is a standing order for twenty regular pies every Thursday for City Council sessions. As long as I have this seat.

MIDDLE-AGED GUY OPENS THE MAXIM TO A PHOTO OF HAILEY FEATURING HER BACKSIDE.

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

This seat?!

THE REST OF THE CROWD BOOS HIM SOUNDLY.

HAILEY

(TO THE CROWD) Hey, hey! Everybody gets to speak their mind here. (TO THE MIDDLE-AGED GUY) Including...

MIDDLE-AGED GUY

Phil. Phil DeMarco.

SHE HAS MOVED THROUGH THE CROWD TO PHIL.

HAILEY

May I? (PULLS OUT A PEN AND SIGNS THE MAGAZINE) "To Phil, who keeps me on my toes. From one Toledo original to another." (WINKS) Worth a lot more now, Phil.

AT CLOSE RANGE, HER SMILE AND PRESENCE IS TOO MUCH FOR PHIL. HE BLUSHES AND SHUFFLES LIKE THE "COWARDLY LION." SHE'S MADE A CONVERT. AS SHE STRIDES BACK TO THE PODIUM.

HAILEY (CONT'D)

Pink Blouse! Do you have any embarrassing pictures of me?

PINK BLOUSE LADY SHAKES HER HEAD "NO."

HAILEY (CONT'D)

Then you have the floor!

RHONDA GIVES HAILEY A THUMBS-UP.

CUT TO:

COLD OPEN - PART 2INT. HAILEY'S TOWN HOUSE - BEDROOM (LATER THAT NIGHT)

RHONDA IS WATCHING THE RECAP OF THE COMMUNITY MEETING ON THE TV NEWS AS HAILEY PULLS ON AN ELEGANT BLACK DRESS.

RHONDA

(RE: TV) Look at you. Hostile guy attacks, you turn it around! You're better than your father. On message, quick on your feet, and most important, you're likable. You took all the steam outta the trash revolt.

BANG! SOMETHING HITS THE HOUSE. HAILEY GOES TO THE WINDOW.

IRATE MAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

Special delivery, Council Babe!

WE HEAR THE SOUND OF A CAR DRIVING AWAY.

HAILEY

Some guy just threw a trash bag at my front door. Might still be a little steam in the issue.

RHONDA

There's always one crank.

BANG. ANOTHER TRASH BAG HITS. BANG BANG BANG. MORE BAGS.

HAILEY

And his cranky friends.

RHONDA

So this date tonight -- is it that cute reporter you kept smiling at all goofy?

HAILEY

I will not comment on my personal life except to say: Didn't he have amazing eyes! (HOLDS UP TWO SETS OF HEELS) So whaddy think? These say "Smart, independent, knows her own mind." These say, "Former bad girl. Still got it."

RHONDA

(POINTS TO THE SECOND PAIR) Those. Just keep it out of the papers.

LENNOX SCANLON (15), HAILEY'S NIECE, APPEARS AT THE DOOR.

LENNOX

(WITH AN EDGE) Excuse me, dear Aunt Hailey. Why are people throwing garbage bags at the house?

RHONDA

Because your aunt believes in the importance of education.

LENNOX

(DEADPAN) That was my guess.

SHE WATCHES HAILEY PUT ON THE "BAD GIRL" PUMPS.

LENNOX (CONT'D)

Nice shoes.

HAILEY

Thanks, they're a little hard to walk in.



LENNOX

It's okay, they'll probably spend most  
of their time up in the air.

LENNOX HEADS OUT THE DOOR.

HAILEY

(SOTTO TO RHONDA) Sweet, isn't she?  
(CALLS) Lennox, did you like the new  
curtains I put in your room?

LENNOX RE-APPEARS FOR:

LENNOX

Not my room. It's the guest room. It  
still has your elliptical trainer in  
it.

AND LENNOX IS GONE. HAILEY TURNS TO RHONDA.

HAILEY

It must be great to be fifteen and  
know absolutely everything.

RHONDA

And you were just a delight at her  
age.

HAILEY

I don't really remember. I did a lot  
drinking then.

BANG! ANOTHER TRASH BAG HITS THE HOUSE. HAILEY REACTS.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE - SCENE ONEINT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

THE STOVE'S TIMER BUZZES ANGRILY. HAILEY AND RHONDA ENTER TO FIND RYDER SCANLON (12) AT THE KITCHEN TABLE, PAPERS AND ART SUPPLIES SPREAD OUT BEFORE HIM.

HAILEY

(LOUDLY, TO RYDER) Doesn't that noise bother you?!

RYDER

(YELLS) What noise?!!

SHE TURNS THE BUZZER OFF.

HAILEY

Ryder, buddy, it's your house now, too. Take some ownership. Turn a buzzer off, open an oven, look inside. See that the mac 'n cheese needs some more time. Reset the timer. (HE'S NOT LISTENING) Talk to myself. Feel the frustration of having two kids and absolutely no help.

RYDER

(LOOKS UP) Huh?

HAILEY

Nothing. It's fine. Remember Rhonda who runs my office? She's staying with you guys tonight because I have a date. Rhonda, say hi.

RHONDA

(BUSINESS-LIKE) Hey there, young man.

HAILEY'S STARE SAYS, "WOULDJA MAKE AN EFFORT?!" SO RHONDA STEPS CLOSER.

RHONDA (CONT'D)

Well, what are you up to there? Ahh!

(STEPS BACK, AGHAST) Breasts. He's drawing breasts. Naked ones.

HAILEY

That's what he does. Tell Rhonda why you draw so many breasts, Ryder.

RYDER

I like 'em. They're great.

RHONDA

(SOTTO TO HAILEY) They're not yours, are they?

HAILEY

(SCANNING THE DRAWINGS) Nope. I think that's his math teacher.

RYDER

(SMILES) Miss Reitman.

HAILEY

Ryder, can you move your breasts so we have some room for dinner?

RYDER PICKS UP HIS DRAWINGS AND STARTS TO EXIT AS A CELL PHONE OR TWO RINGS.

RHONDA/HAILEY

That's yours.

THEY'RE BOTH RIGHT. HAILEY AND RHONDA ANSWER THEIR PHONES.

HAILEY

RHONDA

Hailey Burke... Oh, yes, Rhonda Nichols... Yeah?  
hello. (SENSES TROUBLE, SOTTO (SENSES TROUBLE, SOTTO TO  
TO RHONDA) School Principal. HAILEY) Channel Five.

THEY LISTEN TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PHONE CALLS, GRUNTING SERIOUSLY, PACING AND ALMOST BUMPING INTO EACH OTHER.

HAILEY

RHONDA

She did what?... No, she What'd she do?!... Liz, I  
didn't tell me -- which is find that hard to believe.  
pretty typical... Well, I'll It's not at all typical...  
certainly talk to her... I'll certainly talk to Hailey  
Yes, we could meet you but I doubt there's anything  
tomorrow... Of course. I'm, to it... Sure, you too,  
y'know, their guardian. thanks.

THEY BOTH HANG UP, SIGH, TURN TO EACH OTHER.

HAILEY

Guess what. My sweet niece stood up  
at assembly and sang a song about Ms.  
Lunt, her principal. In which, for  
the purpose of satire, she allegedly  
rhymed Ms. Lunt's name in several  
creative ways. (AWARE OF RYDER) In her  
big finish, dear Lennox chose a...  
colorful little rhyme that has led to  
her immediate suspension and a meeting  
that is bound to be unpleasant.

RHONDA

I just finished telling Liz Ackerman at Channel Five that never happened.

HAILEY

How'd Ackerman get the story?!

RHONDA

Her producer's kid goes to the school. Shot it on her phone, sent it in.

HAILEY

But that's not fair! It's not news!

RHONDA

(PATS HER CHEEK) Aw, you are so cute.

HAILEY

(LOOKS TO THE STAIRS, SIGHS) Guess I gotta go up there and talk to the kid. That's whatcha do when you're a parent slash guardian. (STARTS UP THE STAIRS) Children are a blessing. But you know what's a bigger blessing? A nanny. Did you hear from your lawyer friend who doesn't need hers any more?

RHONDA

The lady got another job.

HAILEY

There can't be that many kids in the world. Somebody's hoarding nannies.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE - SCENE TWOINT. LENNOX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

THE FORMER GUEST ROOM, WHICH LENNOX HAS OBSTINATELY RESISTED MAKING HER OWN. SHE'S STILL LIVING OUT OF TWO SUITCASES, WHICH SIT OPEN ON THE FLOOR. LENNOX SITS ON THE BED, TYPING ON HER OPEN LAPTOP. HAILEY POKES HER HEAD IN THE ROOM.

HAILEY

(BRIGHTLY) Knock knock.

LENNOX

(STILL TYPING) Who's there?

HAILEY

(AFTER A BREATH) Listen, Lennox, I just got off the phone with -- (STOPS HERSELF) Uch, I hate the parenting stuff, it's not me. I'm still your fun Aunt Hailey. Really.

LENNOX

Then let's go grab a beer. Take a look -- just got a new fake ID.

HAILEY TAKES IT, STUDIES IT WITH A PROFESSIONAL EYE.

HAILEY

Very clean. You could get a State Department job with this.

LENNOX

Not likely, with my mommy in the slammer and my daddy playing hide 'n seek with the Feds.

HAILEY

I know you're going through a lot.

HAILEY REACHES FOR HER HAND; LENNOX PULLS IT BACK.

LENNOX

(BACK TO TYPING) Status: *still waiting*  
*for my aunt to get to the point.*

HAILEY

Your principal called. To tell me  
about assembly today.

LENNOX

(LOOKS UP) Two words: First Amendment.  
It ain't number one for nothing. Lunt  
censors half the articles in the  
newspaper. You can't say anything  
critical about the school or she goes  
all Dick Cheney up side your head.  
Somebody had to take a stand.

HAILEY

Yeah, but did you have to call her...  
y'know...

LENNOX

(GRINS) You shoulda seen her face.

HAILEY

Well, we'll both see it tomorrow  
because we're meeting her at three.  
You've been suspended.

LENNOX

You can handle that meeting all by  
yourself.

(MORE)

LENNOX (CONT'D)

I don't have anything more to say to her. (BACK TO TYPING) Status: *Took two months but formerly fun aunt has now officially crossed to dark side.*

DOORBELL RINGS.

HAILEY

That's my date. We'll pick this up later.

HAILEY HEADS OUT.

LENNOX

Don't get pregnant! Kids are fun-killers.

HAILEY

(OVER HER SHOULDER) No, they're a delight and a joy. Sez so in the Bible!

CUT TO:



ACT ONE - SCENE THREEINT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

HAILEY RUNS DOWNSTAIRS. AT THE DOOR, SHE PAUSES, CHECKS HER HAIR AND OPENS THE DOOR TO FIND, NOT HER DATE, BUT SOME GUY IN A BUSINESS SUIT - IT'S JACK LONGO, 32.

HAILEY

("POLITE") Yes?

JACK

(IN HER FACE) You Hailey Burke? I got some issues with you.

SHE NOTICES THE TRASH BAGS ON THE GROUND BESIDE HIM.

HAILEY

I see. And dumping trash on my front door is how you express it?

JACK

My life's in frickin' shambles, okay?!

HAILEY

(BECKONS HIM IN, HANDS HIM A THICK PRINTOUT) Here. We call this 'the budget'. You find a way to pay for two garbage pick-ups a week and not have fifty kids sardined into a fifth grade class. Go ahead, dazzle me.

JACK

The hell you talking about?

HAILEY

I'm tired of you people flinging trash at my house!

JACK

First of all, I'm not "you people".  
Second, I didn't throw any trash, I'm  
here looking for your douche bag of a  
brother-in-law.

HAILEY

Huh?

JACK

Lewis. Scanlon. The one who stole  
all the money. Much of it mine.

THERE'S A KNOCK AT THE OPEN DOOR. BOTH TURN TO SEE HAILEY'S  
DATE, GRIFFIN PALMER, 33, SIX-TWO, PIERCING BLUE EYES.

GRIFFIN

Hailey, hey, I'm double parked--

HAILEY

(DELIGHTED) Griffin! Yes, it's you.  
Hold on a sec. (BACK TO JACK) Get out.

JACK

No! Not until you tell me where  
Scanlon is.

GRIFFIN

(STEPS IN) This guy bothering you?

HAILEY

God, you're adorable. Hold that.  
(BACK TO JACK) Look, I appreciate that  
you're having a hard time --

JACK'S CELL PHONE RINGS. HE CHECKS THE READ-OUT.

JACK

Oh God. (ANSWERS IT) Tiffany, honey,  
where are you?... I'm working on the  
money right now.

HAILEY

Could you take this somewhere else?

JACK

(HOLDS UP A FINGER) Shh! It's the  
wife. (BACK INTO PHONE) No! You  
cannot sell those, those are ceramic  
sports memorabilia and the most  
important thing in my life! ...Of  
course, next to you.

GRIFFIN GENTLY EASES THE PRE-OCCUPIED JACK, BUDGET STILL  
TUCKED UNDER HIS ARM, TO THE DOOR.

JACK (CONT'D)

(INTO PHONE) Tiff, baby, honey... Put  
those back on the nice glass shelf  
where you found them.... What was  
that?! Did you break something?  
Tiffany! I'll be right there.

GRIFFIN CLOSSES THE DOOR BEHIND JACK.

HAILEY

(TO GRIFFIN) Thank you. (TAKES HIS  
ARM) Let's sneak out the back.

GRIFFIN

Hailey, wait. I don't ever want to be one of those guys who calls to cancel a date last minute. But I am a guy who shows up to tell you what's going on. City desk just sent me this. Warehouse fire.

HE HOLDS UP HIS BLACKBERRY. SHE GASPS AT THE IMAGE - THEN TAKES A CLOSER LOOK.

HAILEY

Oh, thank god.

GRIFFIN

Yeah, nobody hurt.

HAILEY

No, I mean, it's not my district.

GRIFFIN

I'll call you later. I promise.

THEY KISS. IT LINGERS. WE SEE WHAT MIGHT'VE BEEN.

GRIFFIN (CONT'D)

I have to get to the fire.

HE'S GONE. SHE SLOWLY CLOSSES THE DOOR AND SIGHS.

HAILEY

You're leaving one here, big boy.

SHE PULLS OFF HER HEELS. AS SHE STARTS FOR THE KITCHEN:

HAILEY (CONT'D)

Rhonda! Good news, you get to go home early!

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONE - SCENE FOURINT. HAILEY'S BEDROOM - LATE THAT NIGHT

HAILEY'S SITTING IN BED, WITH A FEW PAPERS AROUND, HER BLACKBERRY PERCHED ON HER KNEES. SHE THUMBS THROUGH ONE E-MAIL AFTER ANOTHER. THE TV, ON SOFTLY IN THE BACKGROUND, IS HER ONLY COMPANION.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO - SCENE ONEINT. LIVING ROOM - NEXT MORNING

HAILEY RUSHES ABOUT, TRYING TO GET RYDER READY FOR SCHOOL.

HAILEY

You brush your teeth, buddy?

RYDER

Uh huh.

HAILEY

Today?

OFF HER LOOK, RYDER TROTS BACK UPSTAIRS. HAILEY TURNS TO LENNOX, ON THE COUCH WITH HER LAPTOP AND HER PHONE.

HAILEY (CONT'D)

I got meetings outside the house all day but I'll be back in the afternoon. What are you going to be doing with yourself?

LENNOX

If you're out all morning, sounds like a good day to build that Meth Lab.

HAILEY

I'm not crazy about you staying home by yourself.

LENNOX

Hailey, I'm fifteen.

HAILEY

That does not help. I was fifteen. When I was thirteen.

LENNOX

Ooo. This is one of the few times I  
want you to keep talking.

HAILEY

Go update your status. Or download  
something grossly inappropriate.

LENNOX GRABS HER CEREAL AND HEADS UPSTAIRS, PASSING RYDER AS  
HE RETURNS.

RYDER

Morning, Psycho.

LENNOX

How's it goin', Perv.

HAILEY

Where's your backpack?

RYDER

(LAUGHS) Oh yeah. Thanks.

HE RETRIEVES IT AND SHE GUIDES HIM TO THE DOOR AS HER CELL  
PHONE RINGS.

HAILEY

When the bus shows up today, get on  
it. Love you.

SHE GIVES HIM A KISS, SENDS HIM OUT, AND ANSWERS HER PHONE.

HAILEY (CONT'D)

Rhonda, I'm still on family time. Ten  
minutes. Oh, listen, I filled out the  
nanny agency paperwork. You gotta  
find me time ASAP to go talk to them.

THE DOORBELL RINGS. SHE OPENS THE DOOR TO REVEAL JACK LONGO,  
STILL IN THE SAME SUIT, CITY BUDGET IN HIS HAND.

JACK

So Burke, exactly who does your budgets? 'Cause whoever he is, you should think about the death penalty for this guy.

HAILEY

You seriously came back here to talk about the budget?

JACK

No, I came back here looking for Lewis Scanlon. But I was up late last night reading the budget 'cause I got no job! (RE: BUDGET) Look at this, SpongeBob here put expenses in accounts payable, but didn't accrue revenue. Accrued revenue should be included as additional income in any budget. Speaking of criminal negligence, where's your scum-sucking brother-in-law? You can tell me. All I want to do is kill him.

HAILEY

Look, I'm real sorry you lost your job.



JACK

Old news! Yesterday I lost my condo. Which would be okay, if I had my life savings. But that was all in company stock. Current value: dick! Plus, because of the Scanlon stink I got all over me, I am unemployable anywhere in the financial industry! For the next five thousand years.

HAILEY

I know. Lewis made a real mess of things.

JACK

Let me finish! I sold all my suits -- except for this swell Hugo Boss -- they're about to repossess my car, and here's the morning's big headline: now that I got no more gold to dig, my wife says she's leaving me. (SITS) God, I'm gonna miss that car.

HAILEY

I don't know where Lewis is. Frankly, I got a few issues with him myself. Two, to be specific: one's twelve, one's fifteen.

JACK

Yeah, my heart bleeds for the person with the nice house and the job and the Hockney on the wall. (ADMIRE THE PAINTING) You know what? I think I'll take this.

HAILEY

Wait a minute...

JACK

Consider it a down payment from your family to the much abused Jack Longo.

HE LIFTS THE PAINTING OFF THE WALL.

HAILEY

Jack Longo... (LIGHT BULB) You ran the commodities division! Lewis used to talk about you all the time -- you made millions for the company.

JACK

Did he also tell you that he dumped it all into his Ponzi scheme? (RE: THE HOCKNEY) You got, like, a nice Crate and Barrel bag I could put this in?

HAILEY

How do I say this nicely? I got my own problems.

JACK

You're not going to help me?

HAILEY

Do you live in my district?

JACK

I'm parked in your district. And now that I'm living in my car -- yeah.

HAILEY

Listen, I got meetings, a trash revolt, kids to deal with, and I'm in desperate need of a nanny.

JACK HAS BEEN LOOKING AT THE PAPERWORK IN FRONT OF HIM.

JACK

You're not going to find one this way. The salary sucks.

HAILEY

It's live-in. Includes a room and meals. Plus, I can negotiate higher if I find a woman with experience.

JACK

It's gotta be a woman? Only Vagino-Americans need apply?

HAILEY

Personal question. Did your hair just get sick of you and leave?

JACK

(TAPS THE PAPER) Seriously, what's your top number here?

HAILEY

I dunno. Like another hundred a week.

JACK

Hundred and fifty, you got a deal.

But I can't start 'til Monday.

HAILEY

You can't be serious.

JACK

Okay, I can start today. I just have to move a few things around. Mostly, my car. Tuesday is street cleaning, right?

HAILEY

You do know that childcare involves children? You ever work with kids?

JACK

Are you kidding? Right out of college I ran a youth center downtown. I was in charge of fifty kids. I made 'em meals, helped 'em with homework. Hell, it's second nature to me. I'm the oldest of six kids. (OFF HER SKEPTICAL LOOK) Come on! You're not going to trust me with a couple of kids after your sister and her dirtbag husband trusted me with half a billion dollars?

HAILEY

Yes, you're perfect. Just one small detail: I don't really like you. And when people live in my house, I prefer they be somewhat less... jerky.

JACK

Hey, I'm not too keen on you but I'm willing to set that aside. In the interest of the children.

THE FRONT DOOR OPENS. IT'S RYDER.

HAILEY

Ryder? What are you doing back here?

RYDER

The bus never came -- 'cause the streets are all dug up and the sewer guys are tearing pipes out.

HAILEY

Oh shoot, yeah. The new upgrade starts today. I even voted for it. Crap! Crap! (CHECKS HER WATCH) Now you're gonna be late.

JACK

No he's not. I'll take him. (TO RYDER) Call me Jack. (POINTS OUTSIDE) See that Porsche? It's mine. For ten more days.

RYDER

Sweet.

RYDER HEADS OUT. JACK FOLLOWS, THEN TURNS TO HAILEY.

JACK

Relax. I got airbags and GPS. What  
Filipino nanny's gonna bring you that?

HE EXITS, PASSING RHONDA, JUST COMING IN THE FRONT DOOR.

RHONDA

(WATCHING HIM GO) Cute guy. You're on  
a hot streak, aren't ya?

HAILEY

He's a homeless commodities trader.  
He's taking care of the kids. How  
high do I sound right now?

CUT TO:

ACT TWO - SCENE TWO

EXT. RYDER'S SCHOOL - MINUTES LATER

JACK'S PORSCHE SKIDS TO A RAPID STOP RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING.

INT. JACK'S PORSCHE - CONTINUOUS

JACK SMILES AT RYDER.

JACK

Fastest you ever got to school, right?

You like those hairpin turns?

RYDER LOOKS GREEN.

EXT. RYDER'S SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

OVER THE SHOT OF THE CAR, WE HEAR RYDER HURL.

JACK (O.S.)

My Hugo Boss!!!!

CUT TO:

ACT TWO - SCENE THREEINT. LIVING ROOM - A FEW HOURS LATER

LENNOX, ON THE COUCH AND STILL IN HER PAJAMAS, ADDRESSES THE CAMERA OF HER IPHONE.

LENNOX

(INTO HER PHONE-CAM) Day One of my house arrest. I am currently re-reading "A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich", famous Gulag saga for those who were too stoned in Freshman English to remember. Ivan and I share a new bond today: we're both political prisoners, scapegoats of a corrupt oligarchy. And both Pisces by the way.

LENNOX HEARS A KEY TURN IN THE DOOR LOCK.

LENNOX (CONT'D)

All for now! This is Lennox Scanlon, Emperor Lunt's arch-enemy, signing off. Death to Tyrants! Follow me on Twitter!

HAILEY ENTERS AS LENNOX HITS "SEND" ON HER PHONE.

HAILEY

Hey there, how's the Meth Lab coming?

LENNOX

Fine. Still some kinks in our distribution network.



HAILEY

Listen, I was thinking about you hanging out here with not much to do. We could use a smart intern in my office. Phones, filing, deliveries.

LENNOX

Golly, one would have to be smart to do all that. But I'm gonna have to say "God, no." Besides, what would Nanny Man do if I wasn't here to tell him where the towels are?

JACK ENTERS FROM UPSTAIRS, TOWEL WRAPPED AROUND HIS WAIST, HIS STAINED SUIT PANTS IN HIS HANDS.

JACK

I bet you know this. How do you get kid barf out of expensive pants?

HAILEY

Why would I know that?

JACK

'Cause you're a woman. Right?

HAILEY

And your wife dumped you. What was she thinking?

JACK

Look, he's fine now, but Ryder got carsick. He's upstairs watching one of those "Saw" movies. They freak me out, but he seems to be loving it.

HAILEY

(OVERLOAD) *Saw?* What? He's home?

Why is he home?!

JACK

He puked. So I brought him back fast as I could -- which in retrospect was a huge mistake.

HAILEY

What kind of nanny are you? He was just carsick. You stop the car and wipe it up. You don't miss a day of school for carsick.

JACK

Well, he was vomiting. Seems to me you take a kid home.

HAILEY

It's not that kind of vomit.

JACK

How many kinds are there??

HAILEY

He vomits all the time.

JACK

Maybe you should look into that.

HAILEY

Are you a doctor now, too?

LENNOX

(AMUSED) Where'd you find this guy?

JACK

I worked for your dad. 'Til he boned me.

LENNOX

Let me guess. He left you hanging and took off? Welcome to the family!

JACK

(BACK TO HAILEY) Look, I'm taking care of the kids, isn't that the job?

HAILEY

Yeah, but I was kinda hoping for someone who'd do it correctly.

LENNOX

You guys are hilarious. Child services would shut this place down if they could stop laughing.

HAILEY

Be quiet, Missy! (CATCHES HERSELF) My god, did I just say "Missy"?

JACK

Yeah, you did.

RHONDA APPEARS AT THE OPEN FRONT DOOR.

RHONDA

Family time's over. C'mon. There's a union lawyer who wants to stare at your chest and pretend he's listening to you.

JACK

Go ahead. Everything's under control.

LENNOX

Quoth the man with no pants.

HAILEY

(TO LENNOX) Look. I'll be back at 2:30 exactly to pick you up for the meeting at school. So be dressed, be ready. Do not make me wait.

LENNOX

Hail Satan!

JACK

(SMILES AT LENNOX) You're okay.

HAILEY AND RHONDA EXIT.

RESET TO:

EXT. FRONT OF THE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

RHONDA AND HAILEY WALK AWAY.

HAILEY

What am I doing right now?

RHONDA

Union guy, developers and a photo op with the cat that dialed 911.

HAILEY

Wrong. I'm getting myself a real nanny.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE - SCENE ONEINT. "ANNIE'S NANNIES" - AN AGENCY - AN HOUR LATER

AN OLD-SCHOOL OFFICE WITH NO COMPUTERS, JUST FILE CABINETS, TYPEWRITERS AND STACKS OF PAPER. HAILEY'S BEEN TALKING TO THE GENIAL AND FAIRLY ANCIENT ANNIE, THE PROPRIETOR, WHO SITS BEHIND HER DESK.

HAILEY

...But I need somebody today. There's nobody in here you can call? (OPENS A FILE DRAWER) What do you keep in here, pie recipes from the Civil War?

ANNIE

All my ladies are working, dear. I might have one coming off a job in three to four weeks.

HAILEY

I could be dead by then!

ANNIE

Oh, I'm sure it's not that bad.  
(OFFERING) Some tea?

HAILEY

I don't want tea. I want a nanny.  
Actually, I want my old life back but I'm not gettin' that. (CHANGES TACK)  
Annie, dear... you were once a nanny, right?

ANNIE

I was once a very fine nanny.

HAILEY

I could tell that immediately. You just radiate confidence, competence, caring and concern. It's a shame all that life experience is being wasted behind a desk.

ANNIE

I've had that thought sometimes. I just wonder if I have the energy.

HAILEY

Who needs energy? You have the skills. I don't want some fifty-year old punk looking after my kids. I want experience. I want soul. I want you, Annie. Come out from behind that desk. Right now.

ANNIE BEAMS. SHE RISES, OH-SO SLOWLY, AND BEGINS THE LONG LONG WALK TO OTHER SIDE OF THE DESK.

ANNIE

I'm fired up!

HAILEY

Okay. Good.

AS THE INTERMINABLY SLOW WALK CONTINUES:

HAILEY (CONT'D)

Here's my address. Show up when you can. You're gonna be a star!

HAILEY DROPS A CARD ON THE DESK AND EXITS.

CUT TO:

ACT THREE - SCENE TWOINT. HAILEY'S KITCHEN/ LIVING ROOM - A SHORT TIME LATER

HAILEY RUSHES IN FROM THE KITCHEN BACK DOOR.

HAILEY

Lennox! It's time to go! Ryder?!

Anybody? Hello?

SHE CROSSES INTO THE LIVING ROOM, JUST AS JACK OPENS THE FRONT DOOR AND ENTERS.

HAILEY (CONT'D)

Where the hell have you been?

JACK

Taking Ryder back to school. Slowly.

HAILEY

Why?!

JACK

'Cause you said so.

HAILEY

No, I didn't! Where's Lennox?

(CHARGES UPSTAIRS) Lennox!! Are you up here?! Would you answer me! (TURNS TO JACK) You were supposed to make sure she was here and ready to go.

JACK

When did you say that?

HAILEY CHARGES BACK DOWN THE STAIRS.

HAILEY

Oh, it's so obvious -- she's ditching the meeting.

JACK

Yeah, that's what I'd do.

HAILEY

(THINKING FURIOUSLY) Okay, she's got like three places she always goes after school. I'll start there.

JACK

You want me to help?

HAILEY

No, things are bad enough.

HAILEY EXITS.

RESET TO:

EXT. TOWN HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

HAILEY HALF-TRIPS OVER ONE OF THE TRASH BAGS, MUMBLES A CURSE, AND HEADS OFF.

RESET TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JACK HAS OPENED THE LAPTOP ON THE COFFEE TABLE. HE'S GOT AN IDEA AND TAPS A FEW KEYS.

ANGLE ON THE SCREEN - LENNOX'S SOCIAL NETWORK PAGE

NEXT TO A FUNNY PHOTO OF LENNOX IS HER STATUS LINE. IT IS BEING FILLED IN (IN REAL TIME) AS JACK WATCHES:

LENNOX SCANLON IS... *DITCHING A MEETING WITH EMPEROR LUNT! HIDING ON ROOF! WATCHING MY AUNT GET INTO HER CAR RIGHT NOW! EFFING HILARIOUS!!!*

ON JACK - SMILING

JACK

I can work with this kid.

CUT TO:



ACT THREE - SCENE FOUREXT. TOWNHOUSE ROOF - A SHORT TIME LATER

LENNOX IS SEATED IN A DECK CHAIR, LISTENING TO HER IPOD AND TEXTING, AS JACK CAREFULLY CLIMBS OUT A WINDOW.

JACK

Wow. Nice. Is this where you come  
for your adolescent brooding?

LENNOX

Yep. It's the lone Outpost of  
Justice. (POINTS) See that house?  
Four floors and one rich old lady.  
Lives all by herself. There's room  
enough in there for three immigrant  
families -- but they gotta live in  
some shack. That seem right to you?

JACK

Hey, if she owns the house, she owns  
the house. That's how it works.  
(TAKES A SEAT) On the other hand, she  
might've had a perfectly fine husband  
she kicked out -- for nothing he did.  
Except for maybe losing his job. The  
job he worked his ass off to buy her  
that house. (RECOVERING) Just a guess.

LENNOX

Your old lady did a number on you,  
huh?

JACK

Life sucks much of the time.

(POINTEDLY) As you well know.

LENNOX

(CLOSING DOWN) You don't know anything about me, okay?

JACK

Fair enough.

THEY BOTH STARE THOUGHTFULLY AT THE HOUSE ACROSS THE STREET.

LENNOX

And why should I have to go apologize to that bitch of a principal?

JACK

Because. At some point, every single person who wants to get stuff done has to eat a big steaming bowl of crap.

So get out your over-sized spoon, kiddo, 'cause today it's your turn.

(OFF HER STUNNED STARE) Oh, were you looking for the little kid answer? I don't do those.

LENNOX

(INDIGNANT) The school fired the music teacher and completely got rid of the band and Amy Leesin wrote an article asking why -- and Lunt cuts it! No reason.

(MORE)

LENNOX (CONT'D)

And everybody's afraid to talk about it. So I did. And she dusts me. Somebody has to change the system.

JACK

And that can be done by sitting up here on the roof checking e-mail? (EYES HER) You really want to change things? (OFF HER NOD) Go to the meeting. Say you're sorry -- you don't have to mean it -- and then subtly, over time, work to undermine her authority. You gain their trust, then twist the knife.

LENNOX

Like my dear ole dad did to you?

JACK

Yeah. But I'm talking more about what your Aunt's doing. She was an outsider, a screw-up. Made some, as they say "bad choices". Many of which are accessible if you google "Naked Councilperson." But she got smarter. Learned how to work the system. And maybe accomplish something. I'll say this about your aunt -- if she had just a thimble full of charm, she would be unstoppable.

LENNOX

You got that right.

JACK

I mean, she's not bad-looking.

LENNOX

You gonna try to hit that?

JACK

What are you, a dock worker?

LENNOX

Sorry. Withdrawn.

JACK

So what do you say? I'll give you a  
ride down to the school.

LENNOX CONSIDERS, THEN FINALLY SHAKES HER HEAD.

LENNOX

Can't do it. Can't eat that much  
crap.

JACK

(CONSIDERS, THEN) Okay, you forced my  
hand. I got one more argument. And I  
want you to hear me out before you say  
anything.

SHE LOOKS AT HIM: *TAKE YOUR SHOT.*

CUT TO:

ACT THREE - SCENE FIVEINT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - 3:15PM

HAILEY PACES IN THE OUTER OFFICE, OCCASIONALLY GLANCING INTO THE HALLWAY. NO LENNOX. THE DOOR AMELIA LUNT EMERGES FROM HER OFFICE.

MS. LUNT

Still no sign of your niece?

HAILEY

Listen, Miss Lunt, why don't the two of us talk? You and me. I could bring you up to speed on what Lennox has been going through. I mean, it's only been two months since her mom reported to prison and --

MS. LUNT

Miss Burke, this is pointless without Lennox. She was aware of this meeting, wasn't she?

HAILEY

Yeah, I told her. Several times.

MS. LUNT

We'll just have to reschedule. You think you'll be able to find her by, say, Thursday afternoon?

HAILEY

Thursday's a council session all day. Can't we just talk now?

MS. LUNT

Miss Burke, parenting doesn't fit into nice little schedule boxes. Perhaps you don't have adequate time to devote to the child. It may be helpful to look not just at what Lennox is doing, but at the job you're doing.

LENNOX (O.S.)

She's doing okay.

THEY TURN TO SEE LENNOX IN THE DOORWAY.

LENNOX (CONT'D)

Sorry, I'm late. And I'm sorry about the other day and the song thing and the other stuff I said. I was mad and I probably need to shut up sometimes. But for chrissakes, don't blame my aunt. She took me and my brother in and nobody made her, she just did it. She's not a big expert at all this but at least she's trying. Unlike my fugitive fath -- (STOPS HERSELF) At least she's trying. You know, whatever... (GESTURES TO LUNT'S OFFICE) Let's just do this.

LUNT NODS AND STEPS INTO HER OFFICE. HAILEY GIVES LENNOX A SLIGHT SMILE. LENNOX SHRUGS AND WALKS STRAIGHT AHEAD INTO THE OFFICE. HAILEY FOLLOWS.

CUT TO:

ACT THREE - SCENE SIXINT. KITCHEN - LATER (DINNER TIME)

JACK BRINGS A DISH OVER AND PAUSES TO ADMIRE RYDER'S MANY DRAWINGS, SPREAD OUT ON THE TABLE.

JACK

Hey, my wife looked just like that when we got married. (RE: ANOTHER DRAWING) Then after Dr. Margolis and twenty-thousand dollars, she looked like these over here. I gotta say, you are remarkably gifted at this.

RYDER

I dunno. I think I made the areolas too big on these ones.

JACK

No, you're cool. They get that big. In some cases, bigger.

RYDER

(IN AWE) I bet you got stories.

JACK

Which you're not going to hear. However, I will say this. You have a very promising career in graphic novels. Or medical illustration. Either way, you will not lack for employment, my friend.

JACK TOUSLES RYDER'S HAIR AS RYDER GRINS. WE HEAR A CAR DOOR SLAM AND A WOMAN'S VOICE JUST OUTSIDE.

JACK (CONT'D)

Look good. Your mom's home.

RYDER LOOKS UP, STARTLED. JACK REALIZES.

JACK (CONT'D)

Sorry. Your aunt. Your aunt's home.

RYDER EXHALES, THE COLOR RETURNS TO HIS FACE. HE SMILES GAMELY AS JACK SQUEEZES HIS SHOULDER, COMFORTINGLY. AFTER A MOMENT, HAILEY AND LENNOX ENTER THROUGH THE BACK DOOR.

JACK (CONT'D)

Okay. Nobody's smiling, but I see no bruises or contusions, so I'm guessing...?

LENNOX

I ate my whole bowl of crap. Even went back for seconds. I'm going to brush my teeth now.

JACK NODS AND GIVES HER A LIGHT SHOULDER PUNCH AS SHE EXITS. HAILEY HAS OBSERVED THIS EXCHANGE.

HAILEY

Apparently I need to thank you. How'd you talk her into going down there?

JACK

Who can say... people like me.

HAILEY

No, really.

JACK

I paid her. Fifty bucks.



HAILEY

Are you serious? A bribe?! That's - that's terrible! It's not only wrong but it's horrible parenting!!

JACK

I'm not a parent. My job was to get her down there. And I'll absorb the fifty bucks 'cause that's the kind of guy I am.

HAILEY

Is this how you ran your youth center right out of college with your two hundred kids?

JACK

There was no youth center. I made that up. But you needed to hear it or I wouldn't have gotten the job. (TURNS TO RYDER) By the way, young man, you should hardly ever lie.

HAILEY

Can we speak in the other room?

JACK

(SHRUGS) Your house.

HE FOLLOWS HER INTO THE LIVING ROOM.

CUT TO:

ACT THREE - SCENE SEVENINT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

HAILEY LOOKS AT JACK.

HAILEY

(FUMING) You lie, you bribe. Is there anything you won't do?

JACK

Windows. (THINKS HE'S FUNNY, THEN) No, look, I should tell you the truth. I also don't have six siblings.

HAILEY

So you just wing everything?

JACK

It's gotten me where I am today. (OFF HER STARE) I am aware of the irony. Look, Burke, I'm trying to help you out. You're juggling a lot and it's hard to do that all by yourself. Okay, I may have played it fast and loose but Lennox apologized to that Lunt woman, right?

HAILEY

(CONCEDING) Yes, she did. And she also, as it happens, said a few nice things about me. In front of me. First time since she's been here. Frankly, it... took my breath away.

(MORE)

HAILEY (CONT'D)

I mean, finally, it makes me feel I'm making a difference in her life.

(GASPS, THEN) Omigod, you didn't pay her to do that too, did you?

JACK

She must've come up with that herself. I don't have that kind of cash.

HAILEY

Jack. It pains me to say this, but had the thought occurred to me, I'd have paid her five times that much to show up for the meeting.

JACK

I like to keep expenses down.

SHE SMILES AT HIM. FIRST TIME. THE DOORBELL RINGS. HAILEY OPENS IT. IT'S ANCIENT ANNIE.

ANNIE

I made it, dear. Where are the wee ones?

HAILEY

Oh. Annie! Hello. Uh, this is Jack.

ANNIE

Hello, young man! Shall I run you a bath?

HAILEY

Y'know, Annie, I've been thinking a lot. Anybody can be a nanny.

JACK

Hey.

HAILEY

Shh! (BACK TO ANNIE) But there are very few true leaders like you. Who can the Nanny Community look to if you leave that desk? There's nobody. So go back to your office. And lead the nannies of Toledo to greatness.

DURING THE ABOVE, HAILEY HAS WALKED ANNIE OUT THE DOOR.

HAILEY (CONT'D)

Don't let anything slow you down.

ANNIE HEADS SLOWLY AWAY. HAILEY BACKS INTO THE HOUSE.

JACK

So where'd you dig her up? She take care of little Abe Lincoln?

HAILEY

I was afraid you might flame out. Which was looking pretty likely until you pulled all that competence out of your ass.

JACK

So I got the job? 'Cause I could just hop into my house and drive away.

HAILEY

Nah, the conventional nannies haven't worked out. How bad could you be?

JACK

You'll find out, won't you?

HAILEY

You're certainly on call tonight. I  
got a date.

JACK

Oh. (THE SLIGHTEST TINGE OF JEALOUSY)  
Is it the guy from before with all  
the... (RESENTFUL) Hair.

HAILEY

Yep. I might be late.

JACK

Whatever. Anytime is fine.

HAILEY

I'm gonna go check in with Ryder.

JACK

You should.

HAILEY

So, um, thanks.

JACK

You got it.

SHE CROSSES INTO THE KITCHEN. HE REMAINS IN THE LIVING ROOM.

INTERCUT - IN THE KITCHEN, SHE TURNS AND GLANCES BACK AT THE  
DOOR. IN THE LIVING ROOM, HE GAZES AT THE KITCHEN DOOR.  
THEY TURN AWAY AT THE SAME TIME AND GO ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

TAGINT. LIVING ROOM - 3:00 AM

JACK IS WATCHING THE TV AND TAPPING ON HIS LAPTOP AS HAILEY OPENS THE DOOR.

JACK

Good morning.

HAILEY

(PLEASED WITH HERSELF) Yeah, it is late. (PUTS HER KEYS DOWN) You didn't wait up, did you?

JACK

No, I had some calls to make to Germany. Thought there was a job prospect.

SHE'S TAKEN ABACK -- BUT HIDES IT.

HAILEY

Oh. Is there?

JACK

Turns out, no go. I am radioactive world wide. Thank you, Lewis Scanlon.

SHE SMILES, HEADS FOR THE STAIRS.

HAILEY

Kids get to bed okay?

JACK

Yeah, Ryder knocked out at about ten, Lennox was, I think, one-thirty.

HAILEY

(CROSSING BACK) One-thirty?

JACK

Okay, two. Hey, I kept her in the house. As for the schoolwork she missed, I got her caught up in Bio, History and Math -- but she owes me four chapters of English. I'll lean on that tomorrow.

HAILEY

(IMPRESSED, BUT NOT READY TO SAY IT)

Huh. And no money changed hands?

JACK

By the end of the week, you're going to wonder how you ever lived without me.

HAILEY

Is this your nightclub act or is this really you?

HE SMILES. SHE SMILES BACK AT HIM, SHAKING HER HEAD. IS THIS MUTUAL FASCINATION OR REPULSION? BOOM! A TRASH BAG HITS THE DOOR.

JACK

That does it!

JACK JUMPS UP AND THROWS OPEN THE DOOR.

RESET TO:

EXT. FRONT OF THE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

JACK GRABS THE NEW BAG OF TRASH AS WE HEAR AN O.S. CAR ACCELERATE AWAY. AS HAILEY APPEARS BEHIND HIM, WATCHING, HE TAKE A FEW STEPS AND FLINGS THE BAG LIKE AN OLYMPIC CHAMP.

JACK

Hey, butt-face, you forgot something!!

BANG! WE HEAR THE SOUND OF THE BAG HITTING A WINDSHIELD AND BRAKES SQUEALING. JACK LOOKS VERY PROUD.

ANGRY VOICE (O.S.)

Hey!

HAILEY

(STARES OFF, EYES WIDE) Oh my god,  
he's gigantic, get inside!

AS SHE YANKS JACK BACK INSIDE THE HOUSE, WE:

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE