

IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN

"Nancy Jones, PI"

Written by

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EXT. CLUB RAVEN. NIGHT

A hot bar smack dab in the middle of downtown Sacramento.

DON, 30s, a strong jawed man steps out of a car. His clothes breathes upper class jackass. He enters the bar.

INT. CLUB RAVEN. CONTINUOUS

Don parts through the sea of PEOPLE, both drunk and currently getting drunk, until he makes his way to the bar.

He signals the BARTENDER over.

DON  
The usual Bob.

Bob the Bartender nods. He serves Don a whiskey on the rocks.

Don hands Bob cash.

CLOSE UP ON: Don's hand. There is a tan line on his ring finger.

DON (CONT'D)  
Keep the change.

As Don takes a sip of his whiskey he looks back at the crowd of people. He notices a young COLLEGE WOMAN smiling at him.

Don smiles right back.

INT. HOTEL. LOBBY. NIGHT

Don and the College Woman enter the lobby of a very nice hotel.

Don stands at the check in desk. The College Woman by his side. A young RECEPTIONIST stands on the other side of the desk.

RECEPTIONIST  
How can -

DON  
One night, one bed. Fifth floor if you can.

RECEPTIONIST  
Uh. Okay.

A young man sits reading a newspaper next the reception desk overhears the conversation. This is EDDIE, 23.

The receptionist types away the computer.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)  
You are in luck, there is one room  
available.

DON  
We'll take it.

RECEPTIONIST  
That'll be a hundred fifty. We take  
cash and -

Before he can finish, Don whips out the exact amount of money in cash and hands it to the receptionist.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)  
I'll be right back with you key.

The receptionist disappears into the room behind him.

Don looks down at Eddie. They share an awkward stare. Eddie nods at him and Don nods back.

The receptionist returns with a card key.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)  
Room five fifteen.

Don snatches the key from his hands.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)  
Have a nice stay!

Eddie gets up and follows Don and the College Woman to the elevators. He hides behind a corner and takes out a micro camera and snaps a photo of Don and the College Woman.

Don and the College Woman step into the elevator.

Eddie takes out his cellphone and texts:

Room 515

To a contact titled Nancy (Boss).

EXT. HOTEL. CONTINUOUS

Standing outside with a camera in her hands, is NANCY JONES, 30s, the hero.

Nancy's phone chimes. She glances at her phone. Its the text Eddie sent.

She starts walking toward the office building that's right next to the hotel.

INT. HOTEL. ELEVATOR. CONTINUOUS

Don and the College Woman make out passionately. A BELLHOP looks on with horror.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING. CONTINUOUS

Nancy walks toward the elevators. A paper has been taped to the elevator doors. "Not Working."

NANCY

Shit.

She runs towards the stairwell.

INT. HOTEL. HALLWAY. CONTINUOUS

Don and the College Woman walk down the hallway towards their room.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING. STAIRWELL. CONTINUOUS

Nancy runs up the stairwell.

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING. ROOF.

Nancy dashes through the door leading to the roof.

She stops running and starts gasping for breath and reaches into her coat pocket.

CLOSE UP ON: Nancy's hand as she pulls out an inhaler.

Nancy uses the inhaler and stabilizes her breathing. She slowly makes her way to the edge of the building.

She takes the cover off the lens of her camera. She scours the fifth floor of the hotel to find Don's room.

Once Nancy finds the room, she snaps pictures of:

Don and the College Woman kissing.

Don and the College Woman taking each other's clothes off.

And finally Don closing the window shades.

Nancy smiles and puts the lens back on the camera.

EXT. NANCY'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Nancy pulls into the driveway in her moderately priced sedan.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT

Nancy enters her home and turns on the lights. She places her camera on the coffee table. She then waltz into the kitchen.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. CONTINUOUS

Nancy grabs an already opened bottle of wine and pours her self a glass.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy plops down on the couch, glass of wine in hand.

She takes out the SD card and puts into her laptop that was already on the coffee table.

She grabs the photos she took and emails them to her client.

After she sends the email, she hears talking from another room.

Surprised, Nancy gets up.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. HALLWAY. CONTINUOUS

Nancy stands by a door that has light coming through the crack on the bottom.

She lightly taps on the door.

NANCY

Get to bed.

Beat.

The light under the door disappears.

Nancy keeps walking down the hallway.

INT. PRISCILLA'S ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy cracks the door open ajar and peeks in.

Lying in bed is her daughter, PRISCILLA, 7.

Nancy smiles and shuts the door.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy sits back down on the couch and takes a sip of wine.

She lies her head back and closes her eyes.

FREEZE FRAME.

Superimpose: IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. EARLY MORNING

Nancy opens up the fridge and takes out some eggs. She holds her phone up to ear with her shoulder.

Priscilla sits at the kitchen table eating a fruit.

NANCY

The total cost adds up to three hundred.

Nancy cracks open two eggs into a frying pan. There is another pan on the stove that has been used to cook bacon.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Cash or check.

Nancy scrambles the eggs.

NANCY (CONT'D)

You can just drop it off at my office. Oh and I can give your info to a really great family lawyer. If that's the route you want to take.

Nancy grabs three plates from a cupboard.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Great. Have a nice day.

Nancy hangs up the phone. She turns to Priscilla.

NANCY (CONT'D)

You're brother's not up yet?

PRISCILLA

Nuh uh.

Nancy groans.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. HALLWAY. CONTINUOUS

Nancy knocks on Owen's door.

NANCY

Wakey wakey Owen.

No response.

Nancy knocks again.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Owen, come on. Time to wake up.

Still no response.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Alright. I'm coming in.

Nancy opens up the door.

INT. OWEN'S ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy flips on the light floods the room. A disjointed mess. Clothes all over the floor.

He has a desk with two monitors.

OWEN, 14, lies in his bed. He covers his eyes from the light with his sheets.

NANCY

Owen. It's breakfast time.

OWEN

Okay, I'm up. I'm up.

Owen steps out of bed wearing only a t-shirt and boxers.

NANCY

And open up a window. It stinks in here.

Nancy shuts the door.

EXT. SIDEWALKS. MORNING

Nancy walks down a suburban sidewalk. Priscilla holds her hand.

Owen walks a few steps behind them, with a hood up covering his face, hoping not to be seen.

A big white truck with a red stripe down it's side. Black smoke flying out from the tailpipe.

Owen coughs.

NANCY  
Are you okay?

OWEN  
Yeah. I'm good.

NANCY  
Okay. Don't lag too far behind.

OWEN  
Yeah.

They keep on walking.

EXT. SIERRA OAKS K-8. MORNING

The entrance to the school. There are STUDENTS from Priscilla's age to Owen's age being dropped off, by parent or by bus. As well as some kids riding their bike.

Nancy hugs Priscilla.

NANCY  
Have a great day at school honey.

PRISCILLA  
Okay!

Nancy lets go of Priscilla.

Priscilla runs off towards the school. Nancy turns around to look at Owen, but he has already run off.

Nancy waves at you.

NANCY  
Love you Owen!

Owen ignores her. She smiles to herself.



Her phone buzzes. It's Eddie. She answers.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Hey Eddie.

EDDIE  
You gotta come quick. Someone's  
here for you.

NANCY  
I'll be right over.

Nancy hangs up.

EXT. SHOPPING PLAZA. DAY

Nancy parks inside the parking lot of a small plaza. In between a comic book shop and a tattoo parlor is her business: Jones Investigations.

INT. JONES INVESTIGATIONS. CONTINUOUS

Nancy enters. She sees Eddie sitting behind the receptionist desk, biting into a jelly filled donut. There is also two paper cups on the desk.

EDDIE  
Hey boss. She's waiting inside.

NANCY  
Thanks.

Nancy heads towards her office.

EDDIE  
Wait.

Nancy turns around. Eddie holds out a paper cup to her.

EDDIE (CONT'D)  
Coffee?

She takes it.

NANCY  
You're the best.

EDDIE  
I know it.

Nancy heads into her office.

INT. NANCY'S OFFICE. CONTINUOUS

Nancy enters her office. It's all tidy with file cabinets and a shelf full of books.

Waiting for her is PHOEBE WILSON, 30s. She sits in the clients chair.

NANCY

Hello.

Phoebe turns around.

PHOEBE

Hi, Nancy?

NANCY

Correct. And your name is?

PHOEBE

Phoebe Wilson.

They shake hands.

NANCY

Nice to meet you.

Nancy sits down at her desk.

NANCY (CONT'D)

So, Phoebe. What can I help you with?

Phoebe shifts in her seat.

PHOEBE

I have reasons to believe that my husband has been cheating on me.

Nancy takes a sip of coffee.

NANCY

What makes you say that?

PHOEBE

He's been coming home a lot later than usual. There's been activity on his bank account that he won't tell me about.

Nancy nods her head.

NANCY

So, you want me to do some basic surveillance? Find out if he is and if so with who?

Phoebe nods her head.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Great, that is my specialty. I do need some things from you first.

PHOEBE

Sure, what do you need?

NANCY

His name, work place, his car, looking watering hole. Things that would make my job easier.

PHOEBE

His name is Nicholas Wilson.

Nancy takes out her notebook.

CLOSE UP ON: Nancy's notebook as she writes down the name.

NANCY

Nicholas Wilson. Huh.

PHOEBE

What?

NANCY

Just sounds familiar that's all. What else?

PHOEBE

He works at a place called Yoyodyne, on El Camino. He drives a white ford with a red stripe. I can't recall the plate number.

NANCY

That's fine. I have all I need.

Phoebe reaches into her purse and takes out her wallet.

PHOEBE

How much?

NANCY

Oh, it's fifty an hour, but please put your wallet away. Not until you have the results.

Phoebe puts her wallet away.

PHOEBE

Thank you.

NANCY

Not a problem. Leave your  
information with my assistant.

They shake hands again. Phoebe exits the office.

INT. SIERRA OAKS K-8. CAFETERIA. NOON

A crowded cafeteria. YARD DUTIES, pace around the room trying  
to keep the kids of all ages in check.

At a table at the back room sits Owen's friends Zack, 14, and  
Brian, 13.

ZACK

And I'm telling you, Hulk could  
kick Superman's ass.

BRIAN

Not possible. The Hulk gets  
stronger the angrier he gets. It  
would be an even match.

ZACK

Superman would just throw the  
planet into the sun.

BRIAN

Superman would never do that. Hey,  
Owen.

Owen sits down next to them and puts his lunch bag onto the  
table.

OWEN

'Sup guys.

ZACK

Owen, answer me this. Who would win  
a fight, Superman or the Hulk?

Owen takes out a sandwich and takes a bite as he thinks this  
over.

OWEN

Superman.

Brian groans and Zack high fives Owen.

BRIAN  
C'mon man, really?

SPLAT!

Something hits Owen in the back of the head. Owen touches the back of his head, then looks at the ground behind him.

A partly smushed grape lies on the ground.

Owen looks up to see who threw it.

SPLAT!

Another grape is thrown at him. This time it hits Owen in the face.

Owen hears LAUGHTER. One table away sits TED, 15, who is laughing his ass off.

Ted throws another grape at Owen.

Owen ducks and the grape splats on the table.

BRIAN (CONT'D)  
What was that?

OWEN  
Ted being a dickhead.

ZACK  
Just ignore him man, he's just  
pissed 'cause he was held back a  
year.

OWEN  
That's no excuse.

Owen stands up and walks over to Ted.

TED  
What do you want loser?

OWEN  
Stop throwing grapes at me.

TED  
Or what? Gonna go crying to your  
daddy? Oh, that's right. You don't  
have one.

Owen looks around. A Yard Duty is looking right at them.

Zack and Brian overhear the conversation.

OWEN  
No, stop I'll beat your ass.

TED  
Oh ho ho, look whose balls just  
dropped. Tomorrow at lunch.

OWEN  
Deal.

Owen marches back to his friends.

BRIAN  
Hey, Zack. Who do you think would  
win in a fight? Owen or Ted.

ZACK  
Ted without a doubt.

OWEN  
Shut up.

Owen takes another bite of his sandwich.

INT. NANCY'S OFFICE. NOON

Nancy looks through Nicholas Wilson's Facebook profile on her  
computer.

CLOSE UP ON: A picture of NICHOLAS WILSON, 30s, and Phoebe  
smiling.

Nancy closes the tab. She gets up and grabs her camera and  
purse.

NANCY  
Eddie, if there isn't anyone else  
for me, I'm going to head out for a  
bit.

EDDIE (O.S.)  
Okay - wait. Someone just entered.

NANCY  
Great. Let them in.

Nancy sits back down and places her camera on her desk.

RAYMOND MARLOWE, 50s, enters Nancy's office.

Nancy takes one look at him and sighs.

RAYMOND

I see you are doing good for yourself here. Got an assistant even.

NANCY

What are you doing here Ray?

Raymond sits down across from Nancy.

RAYMOND

I got a job for you. If you're interested.

NANCY

I don't do fraud investigations anymore. But if you think your third wife is cheating on you, I'm game.

Raymond laughs.

RAYMOND

It isn't that. Remember that one company you looked into while working for me. Vine Corp?

Nancy nods her head.

RAYMOND (CONT'D)

Well, it seems like one of their employees committed fraud then, zip, went missing.

NANCY

I don't know Ray, missing persons isn't really my thing.

RAYMOND

I know, but since you had a rapport with them, I thought that you might up for it. The pay is good, I made sure of that.

NANCY

So thoughtful.

RAYMOND

I look out for my employees even though they might not work for me anymore.

Nancy thinks if over.

NANCY

Alright. I got something on my plate already so I'll start tomorrow.

RAYMOND

That's fine. I'll contact them. Head to their office tomorrow.

NANCY

Sounds good.

Raymond gets up and goes to the door. He looks over his shoulder and looks at Nancy.

RAYMOND

It was nice seeing you.

NANCY

You too. Have a nice day.

Raymond shoots her a smile and exits.

Nancy grabs her camera.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. NOON

Nancy aims her camera at the parking lot across the street. She searches for Nicholas' car.

She finds the only white truck with a red stripe and takes a few pictures of the license plate.

Out from the office front door steps out Nicholas himself. He jumps into his truck and drives off.

Nancy starts her engine and begins to follow him

EXT. BOB'S BBQ. PARKING LOT. NOON.

Nicholas pulls into the a parking space. Nancy parks a few spaces away.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. CONTINUOUS

Nancy watches as Nicholas enters the restaurant and quickly exits holding a to-go bag.

He hops into his car and drives off.

Nancy again follows.



EXT. WOMAN'S HOUSE. NOON.

Nicholas parks in a driveway. Nancy parks a few feet behind.

Nicholas steps out of his car and carries the food with him. He knocks on the door.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. CONTINUOUS

Nancy watches as a WOMAN, 30s, who is certainly not Phoebe, opens up the door.

Nancy grabs her camera and snaps a photo of Nicholas hugging the unnamed woman.

Before Nancy can get another photo, Nicholas shuts the door behind him.

Nancy drives up and stops in front of the house. The front window is covered by window sheets.

NANCY

Damn it.

Her phone rings. It's Eddie. She picks up.

EDDIE

Nancy, you better get back here. Quick.

NANCY

What's the matter?

EDDIE

That guy from last night. He's here and very very unhappy.

NANCY

Shit. Stay calm and keep your distance from him, I'll be right over.

Nancy hangs up and speeds off.

INT. JONES INVESTIGATIONS. DAY

Eddie cowers in the corner.

Don (the man from the cold open), towers over him.

Nancy enters and Don turns around to look at her.

DON  
Who the hell are you? Where is  
Jones?

NANCY  
That's me. I'm Jones. Nancy  
actually, but you can call me Miss  
Jones. Were you expecting a man?

Don laughs.

DON  
I was, but this actually makes a  
whole lot of sense. Bitches helping  
bitches.

NANCY  
Sir, I would prefer if you didn't  
refer to me or to your wife as  
bitches. I'm going to have to ask  
you to leave.

DON  
I'm not going to leave, what's  
going to happen is your going to  
call my wife and tell her you faked  
those photos.

Nancy thinks it over.

NANCY  
No.

Don picks up a chair it throws it across the room. Eddie  
flinches.

Nancy puts a hand into her purse.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Sir, I'm going to politely ask you  
to leave one last time.

Don walks over to Nancy.

DON  
Or what?

CLOSE UP ON: Nancy's purse as she pulls out a can of pepper  
spray.

She sprays Don's face.

Don SCREAMS in agony and goes to his knees.

NANCY

If you come back here again, I'll  
be forced to take legal actions.

(to Eddie)

Did you get Phoebe's contact  
information.

Eddie nods and exits his corner. He grabs a sticky note from  
his monitor and hands them to Nancy.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Thanks.

INT. NANCY'S OFFICE. DAY

Nancy sits at her desk and sticks the note onto her monitor.

She plugs her camera into her computer. She transfers the  
pictures she took of Nicholas to the desktop.

She opens up Nicholas' Facebook page again. She looks through  
photos of him at family reunions, parties, BBQs, and doesn't  
find the woman.

She then looks through his friends, then finds the woman.  
ELIZABETH HOWE, 30s.

Nancy emails the photos to Phoebe. She then grabs her phone  
and dials Phoebe's number.

NANCY

Hello, Phoebe?

PHOEBE

Yes.

NANCY

This is Nancy. I've sent you some  
pictures.

PHOEBE

Already?

NANCY

I know, I'm surprised as well.

PHOEBE

Hold let me check.

NANCY

Do you recognize the woman in the  
photo?

PHOEBE

No.

NANCY

I found her listed as a friend of Nicholas on Facebook. Is she family? A cousin or something?

PHOEBE

Not that I know of. Could be an old friend. Besides, a hug isn't cheating. Do you have any more photos?

NANCY

No. I'll dig more into her. I'll tell you if I find anymore.

PHOEBE

Thanks.

Nancy hangs up.

EXT. SIERRA OAKS K-8. EVENING

STUDENTS run out of the school. Some line up outside a school bus. Some jump into their PARENT's cars.

Nancy waits outside. Priscilla runs up to her.

NANCY

Hey honey. How was school.

PRISCILLA

Great. We got to watch Bill Nye.

NANCY

Cool.

Owen walks up to them, his hood up.

NANCY (CONT'D)

And you?

OWEN

School was great. Lets go.

TED (O.S.)

Owen!

Nancy turns around to see Ted standing a few feet behind them.

TED (CONT'D)  
Can't wait to see you tomorrow.

Owen ignores him.

NANCY  
Making new friends?

OWEN  
Yeah. Whatever.

Nancy tussles Owen's hair as they walk off.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. EVENING

Nancy stakes out Elizabeth's house. She has her camera lying her lap.

The radio plays some ROCK N ROLL music station.

She doesn't see Nicholas' car so she shuts her eyes.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. NIGHT

Nancy wakes up when she hears the noise of a truck driving up.

Nicholas pulls into Elizabeth's driveway. He walks up to the door and KNOCKS.

Elizabeth opens up and lets him in.

Nancy steps out of her car.

EXT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE. NIGHT.

Nancy crosses the street and jumps the fence into her backyard.

EXT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE. BACKYARD. CONTINUOUS

Nancy sneaks around the backyard. She finds a window looking into Elizabeth's bedroom.

Elizabeth and Nicholas enter the room and start kissing.

Nancy snaps a few pictures of this.

Elizabeth and Nicholas take off their clothes and they jump onto the bed.

Nancy snaps a few more pictures.

Nancy takes a few steps to get a different angle.

SNAP!

She takes a wrong step onto a twig. She quickly steps out of view and into a bush.

Beat.

Nicholas exits the house wearing only his pants. He holds a flashlight and he searches the backyard.

Nancy starts to gasp, she covers her mouth.

Nicholas goes back inside the house.

Nancy reaches into her coat pocket, but she can't find her inhaler.

She runs to the fence and jumps it.

EXT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE. CONTINUOUS

Nancy bolts across the street to her car and quickly gets inside it.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. CONTINUOUS

Nancy searches her purse in the backseat. She pulls out her inhaler and uses it.

Her breathes returns to normal.

She rests for a bit then turns on the engine and drives off.

INT. CAFE. DAY

CLOSE UP ON: A laptop screen. On the screen, the pictures Nancy took of Nicholas and Elizabeth.

Nancy sits next to Phoebe in a booth. Nancy hits the spacebar and the picture changes.

Phoebe starts to well up.

                    PHOEBE  
            I've seen enough.

Nancy shuts her laptop.

NANCY

I know a great lawyer. I think I  
got their card somewhere.

Nancy reaches into her purse and pulls out a business card  
for a lawyer and puts it on the table.

Phoebe meekly grabs it, still crying.

Nancy holds Phoebe's hand.

NANCY (CONT'D)

It's not your fault. He might say  
it, or imply it, but its not. It  
never is.

Phoebe looks up at Nancy.

PHOEBE

Thanks.

They smile.

NANCY

I need to go. Don't worry about  
payment. Just call my assistant  
about the total and pay anytime.

Nancy grabs her laptop and she is out the door.

INT. VINE CORPERATION. LOBBY. DAY

Nancy waits by the elevators in very fancy lobby. MEN and  
WOMEN dressed in professional attire enter and exit the front  
doors.

The elevator doors slide open and Nancy enters.

INT. VINE CORPERATION. OFFICES. DAY

Nancy walks down lines of cubicles.

GREG (O.S.)

Hey, Nancy!

Nancy turns around, surprised to hear her own name.

GREG O'MALLEY, 30s, stands behind her.

GREG (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

NANCY  
I'm sorry, do I know you?

Greg laughs.

GREG  
It's me Greg. Don't tell me I look  
that different?

NANCY  
That doesn't really help me.

GREG  
O'Malley. From high school.

Slowly, Nancy starts to remember.

NANCY  
Oh, right. Sorry, I don't remember  
a lot from those days.

GREG  
Ah. What are you doing here? Just  
got hired?

NANCY  
No, I need to talk to your boss,  
Bruce.

GREG  
Ah right. I'll let you keep on  
going.

Greg disappears into his cubicle.

Nancy keeps on walking.

INT. VINE CORPORATION. BRUCE'S OFFICE. DAY

Nancy KNOCKS on the already open door.

BRUCE MCPHERSON, 50s, sits at his desk. He looks up.

BRUCE  
Ah, Nancy. Come on in and close the  
door behind you.

Nancy shuts the door and sits down.

NANCY  
So, who do you want me to find?



BRUCE

Mason Reed. An accountant. He hasn't shown up for work for the last couple of days. We called him, but he didn't pick up. Both his cell and home number.

NANCY

Did you call the police to check his house? He could be playing hooky.

BRUCE

Well, its complicated.

Nancy laughs.

NANCY

Not really. I just don't see the need to hire me.

A beat. Bruce looks at Nancy with serious eyes.

BRUCE

We - I believe that Mason was committing fraud. Falsifying numbers and taking cash from us. If that were to be leaked, it would be bad for the company.

NANCY

Hence the not going to the police. Got it. So find Mason.

BRUCE

And the money.

NANCY

May I have his address?

Bruce grabs a scrap piece of paper and writes Mason's address on it and slides it towards Nancy. Nancy takes it.

NANCY (CONT'D)

And access to his desk?

Bruce nods.

Nancy gets up.

BRUCE

And please, Nancy, keep it discreet.

INT. MASON'S CUBICLE. DAY

A plain and boring cubicle. No decorations or anything. Just a desk and computer.

Nancy looks through the drawers to find any sort of clue. Anything that will tell her something about Mason.

Nancy sees something underneath a mess of assorted office supplies in a drawer.

CLOSE UP ON: A Bob's BBQ gift card.

Interesting, same restaurant Nicholas went to. Nancy stuffs the gift card in her pocket.

GREG (O.S.)  
Snooping around?

Nancy looks up. Greg is peering over the cubicle wall.

NANCY  
Jesus Greg.

GREG  
It's not surprising you don't remember Mason too.

NANCY  
What?

GREG  
Mason went to Rio as well.

NANCY  
Huh.

Greg extends his hand. He holds his own business card.

GREG  
It's my number. If you ever want to catch up and gets drinks or something along those lines.

Nancy takes the card and also stuffs it into her pocket.

GREG (CONT'D)  
Now that Jake, is you know.

Nancy shoots Greg a death stare.

NANCY  
I need to get going.

GREG  
Understood.

Nancy steps out of the cubicle.

EXT. SIERRA OAKS K-8. QUAD. NOON

Priscilla follows Owen across the quad.

PRISCILLA  
Don't do it, please. You'll get in  
trouble.

OWEN  
I don't care.

PRISCILLA  
Mom will ground you.

OWEN  
I still don't care.

PRISCILLA  
What will dad think?

Owen stops and turns to Priscilla.

OWEN  
If he cared about what I was up  
too, he'd be home. Now, buzz off.

Owen keeps on walking, leaving Priscilla behind.

Owen meets up with Ted and finds that there is already a  
crowd of STUDENTS already forming.

TED  
Wow, you actually showed up. I  
didn't think you had the balls  
Owen.

OWEN  
Shut up. Let's get this over with.

TED  
The beating? I agree.

OWEN  
The fight, jackass.

The crowd circles around Owen and Ted.

Owen turns his head around to see his pals, Zack and Brian standing behind this.

ZACK  
You got this.

BRIAN  
Yeah, man, you totally got this.

Owen turns his head back to Ted.

Zack and Brian give each other a look, they don't think he got this.

Ted swings his fist at Owen's face.

BAM!

Owen falls to the ground.

TED  
This isn't a fight, Owen.

Owen feels his nose. It's bleeding.

TED (CONT'D)  
(to the crowd)  
If he doesn't get up, I win, right?

Owen jumps to his feet and tackles the unsuspecting Ted to the ground.

Kneeling on top of him, Owen beats Ted with his fists.

Ted knocks Owen off of him and stands up.

Owen runs toward Ted, but he is grabbed by a YARD DUTY.

The crowd disperses.

YARD DUTY  
Enough. Both of you come with me.

Ted and Owen look at each other as they are dragged off.

EXT. MASON'S HOUSE. NOON

Nancy parks on the curb near Mason's house.

Just gets out and inspects the garbage bins left outside. She looks inside. They are empty.

OLD NEIGHBOR (O.S.)  
Are you the police?

Nancy turns around to see Mason's OLD NEIGHBOR, 60s, standing in her yard behind her fence.

NANCY  
I'm not, sorry.

Beat.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
If its okay to ask. Why did you think I was the police?

OLD NEIGHBOR  
A few nights ago I heard a commotion over at that young man's house.

The neighbor points at Mason's house.

OLD NEIGHBOR (CONT'D)  
I called the police, but no one has shown up yet.

NANCY  
What exactly did you hear?

OLD NEIGHBOR  
Why should I tell you? You aren't police.

Nancy reaches into her purse and takes out her PRIVATE INVESTIGTOR LICENSE and shows it the neighbor.

NANCY  
I'm looking for Mason, the young man next door. So anything you know is helpful.

OLD NEIGHBOR  
Oh okay. I didn't hear much, but I know there were a couple of voices, yelling about something. I'm not too sure.

NANCY  
Thanks.

Nancy walks up Mason's drive way. She notices the front door is open ajar.

She pushes it open.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Hello? Anyone in there? Mason?

No response.

She enters slowly.

INT. MASON'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy flips on the lights. Just like his desk, Mason's house is plain and boring. Not much personality.

Nothing seems to be missing.

Nancy moves through the house, checking corners.

INT. MASON'S HOUSE. BEDROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy enters Mason's bedroom.

Lying on top of his bed is a duffle bag.

Nancy looks inside the duffle bag. It is half filled with clothes.

INT. MASON'S HOUSE. GARAGE. CONTINUOUS

Nancy enters the garage.

There are a few boxes filled with junk, but no car to be seen.

The way the boxes fill the room indicate that room was made for a car to parked in there.

Nancy steps into the spot where the car would have been to get a better look into the garage.

There are few fishing rods hanging on the wall.

CRASH!

Nancy turns toward the door leading the house. Something has fell.

Nancy slowly exits the garage.

INT. MASON'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy shuts off the lights.

Nancy take out her phone and holds it out like a gun.

NANCY  
I'm warning you. I'm armed.

Out of the corner of her eye, she sees a FIGURE run out the backdoor.

She sprints after him.

EXT. MASON'S HOUSE. BACKYARD. CONTINUOUS

Nancy dashes into the backyard, still holding her phone like a gun.

She searches through the entire backyard.

No one.

Nancy's phone rings. She drops it in surprise.

NANCY  
Shit.

Nancy picks it up off the ground. Sierra Oaks is calling her.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Hello?

VOICE  
Is this Nancy Jones?

NANCY  
Yes, what is this about? Are Owen and Priscilla okay?

VOICE  
Your daughter is fine. This is about Owen. Is this an okay time for you to come and talk to the principal?

Nancy looks around the backyard.

NANCY  
Yeah. I'll be right over.

Nancy hangs up and walks back into the house.

INT. SIERRA OAKS K-8. ADMIN OFFICES. DAY

Owen sits on a chair in the corner, holding a bag of ice up to his eye.

The SECRETARY, sits at her desk, keeping an eye of him.

Nancy enters the room, frantic. She doesn't see Owen at first.

NANCY

Where is he?

The Secretary points at Owen.

Nancy rushes over to her son. She takes the bag of ice off for a moment. She sees that Owen has a big bruise on his face.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Owen are you okay? What happened?  
What did you do? Are you in  
trouble?

Owen says nothing and turns his head from Nancy.

SECRETARY

The principal is waiting for you  
inside his office.

Nancy gets up and walks up to the door. She turns back and gives Owen one last look before entering.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. CONTINUOUS

PRINCIPAL FORD, 50s, sits at his desk. Across from are two PEOPLE with their backs turned to Nancy as she enters. One man and one woman.

Ford looks up at Nancy as she enters.

PRINCIPAL FORD

As, Miss Jones, you're here.

Nancy tries to hold her surprise as the man and woman turn around.

It's Nicholas and Phoebe.

Phoebe wears sunglasses, hiding her eyes.



NICHOLAS

Finally. We've been waiting here  
for a good half an hour.

Nancy doesn't take her eyes off Phoebe. Phoebe turns away.

Nicholas stands up.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Lady, you've got to control your  
son! Teach him some manners! He's a  
goddamn animal!

Nancy finally looks at Nicholas.

NANCY

Speak for yourself. Owen didn't  
give himself that bruise. What  
happened?

Nicholas opens his mouth to speak, but Ford beats him to the  
chase.

PRINCIPAL FORD

What happened was there was an  
altercation between your son and  
their son, Ted.

NANCY

How did it start.

PRINCIPAL FORD

We're not too sure. We asked the  
children, but they didn't want to  
speak up.

NICHOLAS

My bet is on the other one. They  
caught him when he was attacking.  
What's his punishment?

Ford rolls his eyes.

PRINCIPAL FORD

Well, since Owen is a good student,  
and since this is first offense, I  
say he goes home for the rest of  
the day. Next week he'll have lunch  
detention. As well as Saturday  
school for the next two weeks. Ted  
will receive the same punishment.

Nicholas snaps his head at Ford.

NICHOLAS

What? This is insane, Ted did nothing wrong. I want that kid suspended for a week at least.

Nicholas turns to Phoebe.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Right, honey?

Phoebe is distant, look off somewhere.

PHOEBE

I think its fair.

PRINCIPAL FORD

I do too, Mr. Wilson. Especially since I've had to punish Ted multiple times already.

An awkward silence fills the air.

Nicholas hangs his head in defeat.

PRINCIPAL FORD (CONT'D)

That is all. Please, take your children home for the day.

Nicholas storms out.

EXT. SIERRA OAKS K-8. DAY

Nancy walks Owen to her car and opens the door for him. Owen gets into the passenger seat.

Nancy turns around and sees Phoebe standing by herself.

NANCY

Hang tight, I'll be right back.

Nancy closes the door and walks over to Phoebe.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Let me be the first to apologize about my son's behavior.

PHOEBE

Don't worry about it. My son, god bless his soul, isn't perfect easy.

They share a laugh that ends quickly.

Nancy points at Phoebe's sunglasses.

NANCY  
Are you wearing those because of  
what I found out?

Phoebe slowly takes off her sunglasses. She has a blackeye.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Jesus.

Phoebe puts the glasses back on.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Did - did Nicholas do that?

Phoebe nods.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
That piece of shit, where is he?

Nancy looks around the campus.

PHOEBE  
He's bringing Ted home, then back  
to work.

NANCY  
That asshat doesn't deserve you.  
What about you?

PHOEBE  
What do you mean?

NANCY  
Do you need a place to stay, a  
shelter, you can stay at my place  
if you need to.

Phoebe hugs Nancy.

PHOEBE  
Yes, please. I need to get out of  
there.

NANCY  
Okay, then. Pack your bags. You are  
leaving tonight.

Phoebe lets go of Nancy.

Nancy walks back to her car.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. DAY

Owen sits the passenger seat with his arms crossed.

Nancy drives with her eyes on the road.

NANCY

You're grounded for the next week too.

No response from Owen.

NANCY (CONT'D)

You hear me?

OWEN

Yeah. I hear you.

NANCY

What were you thinking? What made you fight him?

Owen doesn't respond.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Huh? Were you trying to impress your friends? A girl? A guy? A-

OWEN

He was talking shit about dad.

NANCY

I know you want to know more about your father, but when he left us, he made sure he didn't care about us.

OWEN

Can't I at least meet him?

NANCY

No. He's not a good man and would have made a terrible father. You're better off not knowing him.

Silence. No one talks for the rest of the ride.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. DAY

Nancy sits on her couch. She dials a number on her phone and brings it up to her ears.

NANCY

Hello? Is this Citi Bank?

VOICE

Yes this is, how can I help you?

NANCY

I'm a private investigator, Nancy Jones. I'm looking for Mason Reed and I know he has a bank account with you.

VOICE

That's right, what do you need?

NANCY

Well, I just need to know if there's been any recent activity on his account. Cash deposits or withdrawl. A ticket purchase or at a gas station?

VOICE

Give me on second, Mason Reed you said?

NANCY

Yes.

Beat.

VOICE

Yeah, I have his account right here, and I don't have anything. Sorry.

NANCY

What do you mean?

VOICE

Nothing like you described. There was some activity from a few weeks ago. He paid for a restaurant with his card.

NANCY

Bob's BBQ?

VOICE

How did - well you are the investigator.

NANCY

Thanks for your help.

VOICE  
Have a nice day.

Nancy hangs up.

She then reaches into her pocket and pulls out Greg's business card.

INT. PRISCILLA'S ROOM. NIGHT

Nancy tucks Priscilla into her bed. Then kisses her on the forehead.

NANCY  
Good night.

PRISCILLA  
Night.

Nancy exits and closes the door lightly.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. HALLWAY. CONTINUOUS

Nancy stands outside of Owen's door.

The light is one under the crack of the door.

NANCY  
I better not see a light when I  
come back.

Nancy walks off.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy has her phone up to her ear. She swings her car keys with her finger.

NANCY  
You ready?

Beat.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Good. I'm on my way.

Nancy exits through the front door.

EXT. JONES INVESTIGATIONS. NIGHT

Eddie stands outside of the office.

Nancy pulls up in her car.

Eddie hops inside the car and Nancy drives off.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. CONTINUOUS

Nancy parks outside of Phoebe's and Nicholas' house. She turns to Eddie.

NANCY

Okay. Phoebe is all packed and ready to go. All I need you to do is go up to the front door and create a distraction.

EDDIE

But, what should I say exactly?

NANCY

I don't know, make something up.

EDDIE

Alright. Wish me luck boss.

NANCY

Good luck.

Eddie steps out of the car.

EXT. WILSON RESIDENCE. CONTINUOUS

Eddie crosses the street and goes up to the front door. He presses the doorbell.

INT. WILSON RESIDENCE. BEDROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nicholas and Phoebe lie in bed. Nicholas is asleep.

RING!

Nicholas wakes up.

NICHOLAS

Was that the doorbell?

PHOEBE

I think so. Go check it out.

NICHOLAS

Fine.

Nicholas gets out of bed and exits the room.

Phoebe turns on her bedside lamp and slips into some shoes.  
She reaches under the bed and pulls out a bag of luggage.

EXT. WILSON RESIDENCE. CONTINUOUS

Eddie waits anxiously outside.

Finally, Nicholas opens the door.

NICHOLAS

What is it? What do you want?

EDDIE

I - uh, I.

NICHOLAS

Spit it out kid.

EDDIE

I'm raising funds for the boys  
scouts of America.

NICHOLAS

This late at night?

EDDIE

I have a rare skin condition, if  
I'm in the sun for more than a  
minute, I'll die.

INT. WILSON RESIDENCE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Phoebe sneaks through the living room, luggage in hand. She  
heads out the back door.

EXT. WILSON RESIDENCE. CONTINUOUS

Back with Nicholas and Eddie.

NICHOLAS

Oh yeah? What's it called?

EDDIE

Xeroderma pigmentosum. It's very  
hard to pronounce.



A few feet away, Nancy stands out of sight by the fence.

PHOEBE (O.S.)  
(whispering)  
Nancy. Watch out.

Phoebe's luggage flies over the fence. Nancy catches it.

NANCY  
Okay, now you.

PHOEBE (O.S.)  
Wait. I forgot something.

NANCY  
Phoebe.

No response.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Phoebe.

Back with Nicholas and Eddie.

EDDIE  
It's not so much I die, its that  
I'll get skin cancer, then I'll die  
from that.

NICHOLAS  
Sound serious.

EDDIE  
It is.

INT. WILSON RESIDENCE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Phoebe searches through the living room. She grabs a picture of her and Ted when he was seven years old.

TED (O.S.)  
Mom? What's going on?

Phoebe turns around and finds Ted standing in the living room.

TED (CONT'D)  
Whose at the door?

Nicholas turns around. He sees Phoebe and Ted.

EDDIE

So, uh, any contribution would be great.

NICHOLAS

What are you Phoebe. Why are dress-

Nicholas realizes what's going on. He turns back to Eddie and slams the door on his face.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

Get back to bed, now!

Phoebe stands her ground.

PHOEBE

No. You wont tell me what do anymore.

Nicholas balls one of his hands into a fist.

NICHOLAS

Ted, go back to your room. You don't need to see this.

Nicholas marches towards Phoebe.

Phoebe takes a steps back.

Nicholas springs toward Phoebe and starts chasing her around the room.

Nancy enters the living room. She rushes at Nicholas and pushes him to the floor.

Nancy grabs Phoebe's hand and they run out the front door.

EXT. WILSON RESIDENCE. CONTINUOUS

Eddie jumps back when Nancy and Phoebe run through the front door.

Eddie sees Nicholas get back up. He shuts the door and holds it close.

EDDIE

Get out here, now.

Nancy and Phoebe keep on running and jump into Nancy's car.

Nicholas breaks through the door, knocking Eddie to the ground.

He chases Nancy's car as it drives away. He stops in the middle of the street. He turns around and sees Eddie running away.

INT. NANCY'S ROOM. NIGHT

Nancy puts on a set of fresh bed sheets on her bed.

Phoebe watches from the corner.

PHOEBE

No, I can't possibly sleep here.

NANCY

And I can't possibly have you sleeping on the couch.

PHOEBE

Are you sure?

NANCY

Yeah. You need a good nights sleep, after all you've been through.

PHOEBE

Thank you.

Phoebe hugs Nancy.

NANCY

No problem.

Nancy steps out the door.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. EARLY MORNING

Nancy lies asleep on the couch.

Priscilla stands over her.

PRISCILLA

Mommy.

Nancy is still deep asleep.

PRISCILLA (CONT'D)

Mommy!

Nancy opens her eyes to see Priscilla standing over her.

NANCY

Hey, sweetie, what's the problem?

PRISCILLA  
Who's the lady in the kitchen?

Nancy sits up and looks toward the kitchen.

Phoebe is making breakfast.

NANCY  
Oh, uh, she's mommy's friend. She's  
nice. Go say hi.

Priscilla runs over to the kitchen.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. CONTINUOUS

Priscilla runs up to Phoebe.

PRISCILLA  
Hi!

Phoebe turns to Priscilla.

PHOEBE  
Hi there! What's your name?

PRISCILLA  
Priscilla Jones.

PHOEBE  
That's interesting. Because my  
names starts with a P too.

PRISCILLA  
Really?

Phoebe nods her head.

PHOEBE  
It's Phoebe.

PRISCILLA  
Cool!

Nancy enters.

PRISCILLA (CONT'D)  
Mommy, mommy. Me and your friend  
both of have names start with P!

NANCY  
Huh. I have never thought about  
that.

PHOEBE  
I made breakfast. If you don't  
mind. As a thank you.

Nancy sits at the kitchen table.

NANCY  
That's perfectly fine.

Phoebe looks at Priscilla as Priscilla sits at the kitchen table.

PHOEBE  
Is she your only kid?

NANCY  
No. There's also - oh crap.

PHOEBE  
What?

NANCY  
Owen's supposed to start Saturday  
school today. Then I need to meet  
up with someone. Do you mind  
watching Priscilla for a couple of  
hours?

PHOEBE  
It would be my treat.

Phoebe flashes a smile at Priscilla.

INT. FAST FOOD JOINT. DAY

Greg sits at a booth. Drinking a soda.

Nancy enters and makes her way to Greg.

Greg stands up to greet her, but Nancy sits down immediately.  
He sits down after her.

NANCY  
Let me get this out of the way.  
This is purely a business meeting.  
Do not think anymore of it.

Greg blushes.

GREG  
Okay, yeah, absolutely. I'm  
guessing this is about Mason?

NANCY

Yes. It is. I -

GREG

Having trouble finding him?

NANCY

I went to his house. I found a half-packed bag in his bedroom. But his car is gone.

GREG

Ah. Interesting.

NANCY

Right? And I called his bank and there wasn't any activity.

GREG

Maybe he's using the cash to pay for gas.

NANCY

That's a possibility. Seeing that you worked with him and knew him from high school, maybe you know where he's going.

GREG

Well, we didn't talk much. If he did have a life outside of work, he didn't tell me.

NANCY

No family or a significant other? A vice? Drugs or gambling?

Greg shakes his head.

GREG

Nah. All he talked about was fishing. How he couldn't wait for the weekend to go fishing at the American river.

Nancy takes out her notebook and rights this down.

NANCY

Thanks. And what kind of car did he have anyway?

GREG

A Honda Civic. You can't miss it.  
It's a deep purple and has the  
vanity plate: zero six one eight  
zero six.

NANCY

What's the significance?

GREG

Is the date of our high school  
graduation.

Nancy writes this down as well.

NANCY

Thanks.

Nancy gets up.

GREG

Well, hold on a minute.

NANCY

What?

GREG

Don't you want any food?

Nancy thinks it over.

NANCY

I'm good, thanks. I call you if I  
need anything else.

Greg watches as Nancy walks out of the fast food joint.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. DAY

Phoebe and sits on the couch. Priscilla plays with her dolls.

Phoebe watches Priscilla play. She then reaches into her  
pocket and takes out the photo of her and Ted.

Priscilla looks up at Phoebe and the photo. She gets up and  
looks at the photo.

PRISCILLA

Who's that?

PHOEBE

That's my son.

PRISCILLA  
He looks as old as me.

PHOEBE  
Yeah, that's was years ago.

PRISCILLA  
Where is he now?

PHOEBE  
He's uh. He's at home.

Phoebe stands up, upset.

Nancy enters through the front door.

PRISCILLA  
Mommy!

Priscilla runs up to Nancy and hugs her.

NANCY  
Hey. Who wants to go for a hike?

PRISCILLA  
Can Phoebe come too?

Nancy looks over at Phoebe.

NANCY  
Sure. If she wants.

Phoebe shoots a sad smile at Nancy.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. DAY

Priscilla sits in the back, her dolls in hand.

Phoebe sits in the passenger seat looking out the window.

Nancy drives.

NANCY  
So, what are your plans? I mean, as much as I like the idea of having you around, it's just not feasible.

PHOEBE  
I called around to some shelters. I'm going to one tomorrow morning.



NANCY  
Sounds great. Have you thought  
about calling the lawyer.

PHOEBE  
Yeah, maybe, I don't know yet.

NANCY  
That's fine.

Nancy shoots Phoebe a smile.

EXT. WILLIAM B POND PARK. PARKING LOT. DAY

Nancy drives through the parking lot to find a space.

She slows down when she sees a deep purple Honda civic being  
towed.

POLICE surround the car.

CLOSE UP ON: The car's license plate: Zero Six One Eight Zero  
Six.

PHOEBE  
You alright Nancy?

NANCY  
Yeah.

Nancy keeps on driving.

EXT. WILLIAM B POND PARK. HIKING TRAIL. DAY

Nancy walks down the hiking trail with Priscilla holding her  
hand.

Phoebe walks right next to them.

A few feet ahead gathers a large CROWD.

NANCY  
Phoebe, Priscilla, hang tight. I'm  
going to check up ahead.

Nancy walks up to the crowd to see them standing around a  
crime scene. Police tape holds them back.

POLICE OFFICERS also stand guard as other officers drag out a  
BODY from the water.

Nancy gets a close look at the body. That's MASON REED.

Seeing enough, Nancy backs up from the crowd and returns to Priscilla and Phoebe.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Let's walk around.

Nancy shields Priscilla's eyes as they walk around the crime scene.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NOON

Nancy and Phoebe sit on the couch watching the news.

CLOSE UP ON: television set. A NEWS ANCHOR talks to the camera.

NEWS ANCHOR  
The body of Mason Reed was found on  
the banks of the American River.  
Due to a boating accident. Reed was  
an avid fisher -

Nancy turns off the TV. She stands up.

PHOEBE  
Where are you going?

NANCY  
Following a lead.

Nancy leaves the room.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. GARAGE. CONTINUOUS

Nancy grabs a cardboard box. She dusts it off and opens it.  
Inside is old high school papers, binders, etc.

She takes out her junior yearbook.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy puts the yearbook down on coffee table and starts to flip through the pages.

Phoebe sits next to her.

Nancy flips to the photos of the junior students.

Nancy points at Mason's photo.

PHOEBE  
Wasn't he just on the news?

NANCY  
Yes and look.

Nancy points at Nicholas' photo.

PHOEBE  
You two went to high school?

NANCY  
And I can assume he was just as  
much as an asshole back then too.

Phoebe points at photo.

PHOEBE  
Look isn't that her?

Nancy looks at picture Phoebe is pointing at. It's Elizabeth.

NANCY  
It is.

Nancy glances at Greg's photo and passes over it.

Nancy flips through some more pages and makes it to the club  
pages.

Nicholas and Mason stand next to each other for some club  
photographs.

PHOEBE  
Wait whose that? And why are hearts  
drawn next to him?

Phoebe points to another TEEN standing next to Nicholas and  
Mason.

Nancy quickly changes the page.

NANCY  
Nobody. But, this is getting  
interesting.

EXT. SIERRA OAKS K-8. QUAD. AFTERNOON

Owen walks through the open quad. Empty and quiet.

He turns his head to see Ted stepping out of the library.

The two of them lock eyes.

Ted breaks the silence.

TED  
How are you enjoying Saturday  
school?

OWEN  
Could be worse, I guess. What are  
you doing in the library?

TED  
Tutoring. I failed another math  
test.

OWEN  
Yeah, math is bullshit.

TED  
Math is bullshit.

Silence.

TED (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry.

OWEN  
I think it's both of our faults.

TED  
No, for teasing you about your dad.  
It wasn't cool.

OWEN  
Oh, uh, thanks.

TED  
Yeah, my mom ran out on us last  
night. Still haven't heard anything  
from her.

OWEN  
Damn, that sucks.

TED  
I miss her.

Ted starts to well up.

Owen stands next to him, unsure of what to do.

OWEN  
Well, uh, um - I'll see you Monday.

Owen walks off.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. AFTERNOON

Nancy continues to search through her yearbook as Priscilla and Phoebe talk in the kitchen.

Nancy's phone rings. Its Bruce from Vine corp. She answers.

NANCY

Hello?

BRUCE

Nancy. Its-

NANCY

Bruce, yes I know. What do you want?

BRUCE

We have much to discuss.

NANCY

Then lets discuss.

BRUCE

Not on the phone. In person. Its much more secure.

Nancy sighs.

NANCY

Alright. I'll be there soon.

Owen enters through the front door.

OWEN

Hey mom.

NANCY

How was Saturday school?

OWEN

Boring.

Owen walks across the living room. He takes a quick glance into the kitchen. He sees Phoebe and recognizes her.

NANCY

I don't think that's the point, but at least you aren't enjoying it.

Phoebe doesn't look up at him. He continues walking and steps into his room.

Nancy stands up.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Phoebe, I have to meet up with a  
client, shouldn't be too long.

PHOEBE  
Okay.

Nancy grabs her purse and car keys and she is out the front door.

Owen heads back into the living room. He looks over at Phoebe again.

OWEN  
Aren't you Ted's mom?

Phoebe looks up at Owen.

PHOEBE  
Yes, why?

OWEN  
I saw him today, at school. He  
misses you. He was even crying.  
(to himself)  
And he calls me the loser.

PHOEBE  
What?

OWEN  
Yeah. Why did you leave him? That's  
not right. Our dad left us and-

Phoebe stands up and looks out the window. She sees Nancy drive off.

PRISCILLA  
Shut up Owen.

OWEN  
Don't tell me what to do.

PRISCILLA  
You're making her upset.

OWEN  
No I'm you little brat.

Phoebe spins around.

PHOEBE  
Quiet! The both of you!

Owen and Priscilla stop bickering.

INT. VINE CORPERATION. BRUCE'S OFFICE. AFTERNOON

Nancy enters Bruce's office and closes the door behind her. She sits down in front of him.

Bruce takes off his reading glasses and looks at her.

NANCY

I'm guessing I won't be paid for Mason.

BRUCE

No, you won't be paid.

NANCY

Great. Why did you want to meet again?

BRUCE

Because, I hired you for two things. One find Mason and two find the money he stole.

NANCY

I don't do stolen objects. Call the police or the government, I'm certain they'll repay you.

Nancy stands up.

BRUCE

Wait. I'll pay double the rate.

Nancy turns to Bruce. Something's fishy.

NANCY

You never did say how much he stole.

Bruce sighs.

BRUCE

He took one million.

Nancy sits back down.

NANCY

Isn't this a small local paper company? I doubt you make that amount of money in a quarter.

BRUCE  
I guess that's why its imperative  
you find it.

Nancy thinks it over.

NANCY  
It'll take a while for me to find  
the money. I'll need a retainer  
first. Let's say five hundred.

BRUCE  
Deal.

Bruce reaches into a drawer and takes out a check. He fills  
it out and hands it to Nancy.

She grabs it with glee.

INT. NANCY'S HOUSE. EVENING

Nancy walks through the front door. Check in hand.

NANCY  
Who wants to go out for dinner? My  
treat.

She sees Priscilla and Owen sitting on the couch watching TV.  
She doesn't see Phoebe.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
Where's Phoebe?

OWEN  
I don't know.

PRISCILLA  
She left a couple of minutes ago.

OWEN  
Priss!

NANCY  
Owen. What did you say to her?

OWEN  
Nothing. I swear!

PRISCILLA  
He told her that Ted was missing  
her.



NANCY

Ted?

Nancy remembers that name.

NANCY (CONT'D)

I know where she went. And Owen,  
remember your grounded. No TV.

Nancy rushes out the door and slams it behind her.

EXT. WILSON RESIDENCE. EVENING

Nancy parks on the curb. She sees that there is a cab waiting  
outside of house. The back door still open.

Nancy walks up to the Cab. She gets the attention of the CAB  
DRIVER.

NANCY

How much is the fare?

CAB DRIVER

Twelve fifteen.

Nancy reaches into her purse and takes out some cash and  
hands it to the Driver.

NANCY

Get out of her.

CAB DRIVER

Thanks.

The Cab Driver speeds off.

INT. WILSON RESIDENCE. LIVING ROOM. CONTINUOUS

Nancy enters the house. She sees Phoebe trying to drag Ted  
out from his room.

TED

I don't wanna go! Why can't you  
stay?

PHOEBE

I can't stay here with him. It's  
safer if we both leave.

Nancy walks up to them.

NANCY  
Phoebe. Let go of him.

Phoebe turns to Phoebe.

PHOEBE  
I can't. I just can't leave him  
here.

NANCY  
Think about how this looks. This  
won't help you at all. I know its  
bullshit, but please. Leave him for  
now. You can help him later.

Phoebe turns back to Ted. She sees him starting to cry. She  
lets go of him.

PHOEBE  
Okay. Okay. Let's go.

Nancy turns around to see Nicholas standing in living room,  
holding a box of pizza.

NANCY  
We're leaving.

Nicholas doesn't say anything. He just stares at Nancy and  
Phoebe intensely as they walk out the house.

EXT. WOMEN'S SHELTER. MORNING

Nancy pulls up into a parking spot.

INT. NANCY'S CAR. CONTINUOUS

Nancy turns to Phoebe who sits silently looking out the  
window.

NANCY  
We have to play harder and smarter.  
It's not fair, but we have too.  
We'll get Ted and make sure  
Nicholas pays his fair deal. Okay?

Phoebe nods her head.

NANCY (CONT'D)  
You have my number. You need  
anything I'll be there. Free of  
charge.

PHOEBE  
Thank you. I will.

Phoebe grabs her luggage from the back seat and steps out the car.

Nancy watches as Phoebe enters the shelter.

Nancy looks at the back seat. She notices that her yearbook is lying there.

She grabs it and opens it up. Then throws it into the passenger seat.

Nancy turns on her engine. The radio comes to life.

Ten Years After' "I'd Love to Change the World" starts to play.

CLOSE UP ON: Yearbook. It's open on the group photo of Mason, Nicholas and the third teen with the hearts drawn around him.

Nancy drives off.

FADE OUT.

**END OF EPISODE**