

-M O O N L I G H T I N G-

"THE SON ALSO RISES"

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INTRODUCTION

FADE IN:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - EXT. PALACE 1

...somewhere in EASTERN EUROPE...and we PAN ACROSS the battlements...and can SEE FLAGS FLYING to mark a festive atmosphere within this seat of power...

OVER FRAME - MOLDAVIA 2

V.O.

Last season on "Moonlighting..."

SHOCK CUT TO:

INT. CASTLE CHAPEL 3

...a ROYAL WEDDING in progress...scores of elegant blue-bloods watching...dressed in their finest finery...

SHOCK CUT TO:

THE ALTAR 4

...where THE BRIDE and GROOM stand before a PRIEST...

PRIEST

...and do you, Prince Michael of Moldavia, take this woman...

SHOCK CUT TO:

DAVID AND MADDIE 5

...among the guests...standing next the them, a dark-haired FEMALE PHOTOJOURNALIST taking pictures with the flash attachment on her expensive 35mm camera...

PRIEST (cont'd)

...in sickness and in health, for richer and poor...

...suddenly we HEAR GLASS BREAKING...

SHOCK CUT TO:

THE CHURCH WINDOWS 6

...TERRORISTS are CRASHING THROUGH...dressed in camouflage

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

6

outfits...machine guns strapped over their shoulders...

SHOCK CUT TO:

THE CHAPEL

7

...as the GUESTS react with horror...they SCREAM...

SHOCK CUT TO:

THE TERRORISTS

8

...spraying the crowd with brutal crossfire...

SHOCK CUT TO:

DAVID AND MADDIE

9

...HE pulls Maddie to the floor beneath their FOLDING CHAIRS...

DAVID

Look out!

SHOCK CUT TO:

THE CARNAGE

10

...BULLETS pounding into SHRIEKING GUESTS...ricocheting off the walls as...

SHOCK CUT TO:

THE FEMALE PHOTOJOURNALIST

11

...her flashbulb popping as she snaps photos of the massacre...

SHOCK CUT TO:

ANGLE -- DAVID AND MADDIE

12

...PRONE...LIFELESS...as the TERRORISTS CEASE FIRE...and then exit through the ruins and the mass of BLOOD-SOAKED CORPSES...

THE SCENE

13

...Hold on it...silent as a morgue...and then--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

13

V.O.  
 ...And now...this season on  
 "Moonlighting..."

DAVID AND MADDIE

14

...suddenly stirring...and then they stand...and they  
 dust themselves off...

DAVID  
 (feeling around  
 and finding no  
 wounds on himself)  
 Talk about bad aim.

MADDIE  
 (seeing the other  
 guests getting to  
 their feet)  
 They missed everybody...

ANOTHER ANGLE --

15

...as Maddie bends over the still-prone photographer...

MADDIE (cont'd)  
 Are you alive?

PHOTOGRAPHER  
 (opening and eye  
 and looking at  
 Maddie)

No.  
 (she closes  
 her eyes)

SHOCK CUT TO:

THE ALTAR

16

...as the GROOM, THE BRIDE AND THE PRIEST finish dusting  
 themselves off...and the GROOM finally answers the PRIEST'S  
 questions --

PRINCE MICHAEL  
 I do.

SHOCK CUT TO:

DAVID AND MADDIE

17

...looking at each other...and a lightbulb goes off in Maddie's head...

MADDIE

Hey -- what if this whole thing was just a fake...fake terrorists, fake bullets...

ON DAVID

18

...excitedly picking up the thread...

DAVID

Yeah -- a fake cliffhanger to fool everybody...

DAVID AND MADDIE

19

...consider the possibility for a second...then shake their heads at each other...

MADDIE

Nah -- that's impossible.

(and then;  
glancing at  
her watch)

Uh-oh -- our plane!

...and she grabs David by the arm...starts pulling him toward the exit...

DAVID

(resisting)

'Ey -- I want to know what happens with Blake...and Krystal...I wanna lick the bride...

WITH DAVID AND MADDIE

20

...as she hauls him out of the chapel...

MADDIE

Come on, David, we've got better things to do.

SHOCK CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

ON THE BLUE MOON WINDOW

21

...from outside...the window is DARKENED...shades drawn on the inside...no signs of life anywhere...and we MOVE IN SLOWLY to see...

A SMALL SIGN

22

...taped on the window...it reads "ON VACATION"...and we HOLD on it for a long moment...until we HEAR a light, continual SQUEAK...the unmistakable sound of tennis shoes...coming CLOSER and CLOSER...getting LOUDER and LOUDER...then coming to a STOP...and we HEAR the sound of KEYS JANGLING...and the sound of one being inserted into the door...and the door opening slightly...and then...

A HAND

23

...comes into frame from inside the office...underneath the shades...and TEARS THE SIGN from it's spot on the window... then goes out of frame as we...

CUT TO:

THE DOOR - REVERSE ANGLE

24

...from INSIDE the office...as it FLIES OPEN...and there stands DIPESTO...she's barely visible between TWO LARGE PLANTS she hold in either hand, along with the sign and her keys... She STANDS at the door for a moment, taking a long look around the room...then she SMILES...it's good to be back home...

ANOTHER ANGLE

25

...as she puts the plants down, picks up a stack of mail from the floor, then walks behind her desk...and FLICKS ON the PHONE MACHINE...and sorts through the stack of mail as she listens...

DIPESTO'S VOICE (O.C.)

(on the recorder)

Blue Moon Detective Agency...

Have things gone awry

Is it solutions you seek?

We're eager to help

But we're gone for two weeks

So if you're despondent

And your life's out of whack

We hope you're still troubled

When the office gets back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

25

...we HEAR a "BEEP"...and the first message comes on...it's a DEEP, GRUFF MALE VOICE...

VOICE (O.C.)  
(on the recorder,  
same rhythm)

I ain't amused  
By your trip out of state  
This is your landlord,  
Your rent's two weeks late  
Now your toilet's backed up  
And the place smells like heck  
If you want me to fix it  
Then send me the check.

...and there's a LOUD CLICK...and Dipesto reacts, then turns off the machine...then takes the sorted mail and walks to the employees' desks...where she sets various pieces of mail on various desks...and then...

DIPESTO

26

...stops...and looks around at the desks...a frown forming on her face as she contemplates something...then, getting an idea...as she proceeds to take each NAME PLATE from each desk and switch it to another desk, moving the mail to the appropriate desk as well...she finishes, and looks down at her work, pleased...and then...

THE OFFICE DOOR

27

...OPENS again...and the other EMPLOYEES shuffle in...all eight or ten of them...heads down...quiet...none of them at all happy to be back...

ANOTHER ANGLE

28

...as they file by Dipesto and take their seats, barely acknowledging her...nodding their hellos...

DIPESTO  
(to each of them,  
bright and cheery)  
Hi everyone...welcome back...  
you sure look tan...

...the last one takes his seat...and they all sit there, brain-dead...and then...

DIPESTO  
I was thinking...

THE OTHERS 29

...look at each other and GROAN...and...

DIPESTO 30

...continues, undeterred...

DIPESTO

Since it's our first day back  
I thought we should try a new  
seating arrangement. I read  
where it's important to bring  
variety into the office. And  
they say sitting at a new desk  
gives you a whole new  
perspective and makes the work  
place more exciting.

EVERYONE 31

...looks up at her, not wanting to go through this...but...

DIPESTO 32

...just stands there, waiting...and...

THE OTHERS 33

...slowly, gradually, without emotion, get up and look around  
for their new desks...it's an uninspired effort...and finally  
they all get seated in their new places...heads down again,  
less excited than before...

DIPESTO 34

...watches...and then...

DIPESTO

See?

...she then walks over to the two new plants...picks them  
up...and grandly places them on either side of her desk...  
visibly pleased at the new look...

ANGLE ON OFFICE DOOR 35

...as it opens slowly...a foot or two...and MADDIE peeks  
her head in...

MADDIE  
("up," smiling)  
Hello...



## ANOTHER ANGLE

36

...as Dipesto looks up to see her...

DIPESTO  
(excited)  
Miss Hayes!

...and Dipesto jumps out of her chair and RUNS around to greet Maddie, who RUSHES IN...they HUG warmly...

DIPESTO  
Welcome back!

MADDIE  
Thank you, Miss Dipesto.  
Welcome back to you!  
(turns to others)  
Hello, everyone!

## ANGLE ON THE OTHERS

37

...as they LOOK UP in unison, an emotionless class to their teacher...

EVERYONE  
Hello, Miss Hayes...

## BACK ON MADDIE AND DIPESTO

38

...as Maddie reacts, at a loss...

MADDIE  
Yes, well...  
(turns back to  
Dipesto;  
excited)  
How was your vacation?

DIPESTO  
Terrific!  
(and then)  
Except when the llama bit our  
sherpa guide on the way up  
the mountain.

MADDIE  
(amazed)  
You climbed a mountain?

(CONTINUED)

DIPESTO

Only half. That's when the llama got angry. We had to carry him down the mountain on our backs.

MADDIE

The llama?

DIPESTO

No, the sherpa. The llama wouldn't budge. By the time we got to the bottom, there weren't enough days to start climbing again.

(and then)

Did you have that problem in New York?

MADDIE

(confused)

I usually took taxis...

DIPESTO

I mean not having time to do everything you wanted.

MADDIE

(catching on)

Oh...Yes...

(overdone)

I suppose that's always a problem there...so much to do, So little time...

(chuckles;

shakes her head)

You know New York...

DIPESTO

Well...no.

MADDIE

(realizing)

Oh. Well...

(upbeat)

...You can take my word for it...

DIPESTO

(smiling;  
relieved)

Okay.

...there's an awkward moment of silence...and then...Dipesto

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

38

reaches over the counter, picks up a stack of letters, and hands them to Maddie...

DIPESTO  
Here's your mail.

MADDIE  
Thank you. Did Mr. Addison get back?

DIPESTO  
(shrugs)  
He hasn't called...

MADDIE  
Oh...okay...  
(thinks a moment;  
smiles)  
Think I'll get settled in...

ANOTHER ANGLE

39

...as Maddie starts toward her office...then STOPS...realizing she has to address the other employees...this is not her comfort zone...

MADDIE  
(awkwardly)  
I'm glad to see you're all...  
safe and sound...  
(at a loss)  
My vacation was...very nice...  
and...as time permits...I look  
forward to talking to each and  
every one of you about yours  
...individually...Meantime,  
it's...very nice...to have you  
back...

THE EMPLOYEES

40

...stare up at her...there's nothing to say...and...

MADDIE

41

...stands there uncomfortably for a moment...then turns and WALKS into her OFFICE, CLOSING the DOOR behind her...

ANOTHER ANGLE

42

...as everyone starts to settle back...but before they can...

## THE OFFICE DOOR

43

...FLIES OPEN again...and there stands DAVID...a Mexican travel brochure...he's wearing a SERAPE...a BANDANA... SUNGLASSES...and a SOMBRERO with FUZZY DICE hanging from it ...he poses at the door...

DAVID

(spanish accent)

Hola, gringos and gringettes  
...not to mention all you  
mysteries of science who fall  
somewhere in-between...

## ANOTHER ANGLE

44

...as the others LOOK UP...

DIPESTO

(excited)

Mr. Addison!

DAVID

(walking into  
the room)

Ees true, I am he. Back by  
popular demand...

(lowers shades)

...and certain outdated  
extradition laws...

(shades back up)

...the hombre who put the  
"f" in siesta, the man to  
whom Speedy Gonzales once  
said, "Hey, dude, slow down..."  
fresh from Me-hi-co and  
coming soon on kodacholor  
slides to living rooms every-  
where...please hold your  
applause 'til the end...  
it's...

(he stops;

cups his ear

to the air)

...but wait...what is that  
sound? Could it be...could  
it possibly be...the almost  
undetactable, yet un mistake-  
able collective moan of an  
office full of people back at  
work?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

44

...the others just lower their heads...as David starts PACING amongst them...

DAVID

("disappointed")

Amigos...you think vacation's some disposable diaper you slap on, use up, then toss out like it never existed? You think it's some one night stand you call up, abuse for awhile, then send on its way? Get back on that phone, the sheets aren't even cold! Vacation never ends, it just changes location. You can't sit there like a plateful of refried beans, Senor Santa's brought some goodies to make this vacation last...

(pulls a CASSETTE  
out of his  
pocket)

Miss Dipesto...

...he TOSSES the tape to...

DIPESTO

45

...who catches it...and knowing what this means, reaches behind her desk and PULLS OUT A GHETTO BLASTER and INSERTS the tape...as...

DAVID

46

...arrives at the office door, and turns back to the others...

DAVID

But you get these goodies  
the old fashioned way...

...he quickly DUCKS OUT...then JUMPS back into the room holding a BASEBALL BAT and a LARGE DONKEY-SHAPED PINATA...

DAVID

...You earn them...

(and then;  
to Dipesto)

Hit it, Muchacha!

DIPESTO

47

...pushes a button on the tape player...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE

48

...as the strains of Richie Valen's "La Bamba" blast the room...David takes the cue and DANCES into the center of the room...and everyone else follows suit, GETTING UP and DANCING to the music...yelping and hollering as they do...

MUSIC

"Para bailar La Bamba  
Para bailar La Bamba  
se necessita una poca  
de gracia da da da..."

DAVID

O'Neill, Simmons...  
(hands them  
the pinata)  
Hanging detail...

ANOTHER ANGLE

49

...as O'Neill and Simmons REMOVE a HANGING PLANT from its toggle bolt and start to hang the pinata in its place... and a few others MOVE the DESKS, all moving to the MUSIC... and...

BACK TO SCENE

50

...as David addresses the others...

DAVID

...and I'll choose our first  
contestant...though we all  
know there's only one real  
choice...our token member of  
the animal kingdom, big as an  
ox and damn near as agile,  
Mathews, come on down!

...on that, a LARGE, HULKING EMPLOYEE - MATHEWS - STEPS FORWARD...

DAVID

(looking him over)  
Whoa...stands erect, opposable  
thumbs, we're talking double  
threat...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

50

DAVID (cont'd)  
 (takes a bandana  
 from his pocket,  
 ties it around  
 Mathews head)

...Gotta be tight...this  
 endeavor requires that  
 absolutely no blood be allowed  
 to reach the brain...

...he finishes tying, then leads Mathews to the pinata which  
 they've just finished hanging...and hands him the BAT...

DAVID  
 (to Mathews)  
 Okay, big guy, all ya' gotta  
 do is make contact...  
 (steps away)  
 And remember people, the  
 surgeon general warns that  
 failure to participate may  
 prove hazardous to your  
 health...

...everyone continues to DANCE to the MUSIC...as Mathews  
 prepares to swing...

DAVID  
 Ready, Mathews...Uno...dos...  
 tres...swing away!

...at that, David SWINGS the pinata so it sways back and forth  
 ...and Mathews steps up...and SWINGS the bat viciously...  
 missing the pinata...

DAVID  
 Ohhh, went for the cheap  
 seats, but no cigar...  
 (another SWING  
 and MISS)  
 Strike two, will we ever know  
 what waits inside...Last time  
 two illegals popped out and  
 thanked me for the ride...  
 (and then;  
 to Dipesto)  
 When's the boss lady due?

DIPESTO  
 She's here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

50

DAVID  
 (looks at her;  
 surprised)  
 She's here?!

...and his question is punctuated by...

THE PINATA

51

...BURSTING OPEN, as Mathews MAKES CONTACT...and piles of  
 candy come tumbling out, along with dozens of LITTLE WRAPPED  
 PACKAGES...

ALL THE OTHERS

52

...SCRAMBLE to the floor, as the MUSIC CONTINUES...and...

DAVID

53

...moves quickly toward Maddie's office...

DAVID  
 Back in a flash, kids...keep  
 the little packages away from  
 the no-pest strip, that's  
 genuine Spanish fly...for that  
 memorable evening...  
 (winks)  
 ..."south of de border"...

...he arrives at Maddie's door, PULLS the bandana up over his  
 mouth, bandito-style...then KNOCKS and enters...

INT. MADDIE'S OFFICE

54

...as he CLOSES the DOOR behind him...Maddie's standing at a  
 file cabinet, putting something away...

DAVID  
 Thees ees a steeck-up...  
 geeve me all your clothing...  
 and, porfavor, do it slowly...

MADDIE  
 (reacts;  
 then softly)  
 Hello...

DAVID  
 Que pasa...  
 (thinking)  
 Or was that Kaye Ballard...?  
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

54

DAVID (cont'd)  
 (as he takes off  
 sombrero and  
 shades)  
 Didn't wanna join the party?

MADDIE  
 I thought I'd let you get it  
 out of your system...

DAVID  
 Did that at home...a little  
 bran, couple shots of prune  
 juice, whoosh, I'm clean as  
 a whistle...

MADDIE  
 (frowns)  
 Now I remember why I needed  
 a vacation...

DAVID

55

...smiles at her...and...

MADDIE

56

...manages to smile back...then looks at him for a moment...  
 silently...then awkwardly...she wants to say something...  
 but doesn't...and...

DAVID

57

...feels the awkwardness himself...and looks back at her...  
 not knowing what to say...he tries to smile again...and  
 then...

ANOTHER ANGLE

58

...as Maddie SHRUGS...and David SHRUGS back...and then,  
 finally, Maddie resolves herself...and takes a step toward  
 him...

MADDIE  
 (cheery)  
 Welcome back...

DAVID  
 (just as cheery)  
 Welcome back yourself...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

58

...and he takes a step toward her...but they both stop short...they want to hug but they can't quite pull it off... each of them reaches out, almost touching...then pulls back ...and then again they stand there...awkwardly...not knowing what to say or do...and then, finally...

MADDIE

Well...

DAVID

Well...

...and they shift their feet, both embarrassed at their inability to handle the moment...

...and then...

MADDIE

(searching for  
a way out)

So...

DAVID

(equally at a  
loss)

So...

...and they stand there another moment...and then...a sudden burst...

MADDIE

How was your vacation?  
(and then;  
realizing)  
After you...  
(and then)  
No, please...

DAVID

How was your vacation?  
(and then;  
realizing)  
After you...  
(and then)  
Go ahead...

...and they both stop again, frustrated...and then...

DAVID

Sun rises in New York first...

MADDIE

(giving in)  
Well...I wouldn't know where  
to start...

(brightening;  
for him)

It was great...saw some shows,  
had some terrific meals, even  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

58

MADDIE (cont'd)  
saw a Yankee game...

DAVID  
Sounds great...probably ran  
into some old friends...

MADDIE  
Three or four...

DAVID  
Made some new ones...

MADDIE  
One or two...

DAVID  
Which was it?

MADDIE  
What?

DAVID  
(casually)  
One or two?

MADDIE  
(not liking  
the question)  
I guess...one...

DAVID  
(slight  
disappointment)  
Oh...

...there's a long pause...silence again...and then...

MADDIE  
And you? Did you have a good  
time?

DAVID  
(snapping out  
of it)  
Me? In Mexico? Can't miss,  
Mexico and me go together...  
like Abbott and Costello...  
wine and cooler...Montezuma  
and Revenge...I couldn't get  
enough...sailing, snorkeling,  
drinking, eating...not to  
mention the twins...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

58

MADDIE

Too late, they're mentioned...

DAVID

Oh, by the way...

(no big deal)

I got you a little something...

MADDIE

(perking up)

You did?

(and then)

I got you a little something,  
too...

...David reaches under his serape and pulls out a BROWN,  
LACQUERED BULLFROG COIN PURSE...and hands it to a less-than-  
overwhelmed Maddie...

DAVID

Used to be a real frog...

MADDIE

Oh...

(unsure)

Thank you...

...Maddie pulls a SMALL SKYSCRAPER enclosed in a CLEAR PLASTIC  
BUBBLE from her drawer...and hands it to him...

MADDIE

This is for you...turn it  
over and it snows on the  
Empire State building...

DAVID

(equally unsure)

Thanks...

(and then)

My first snow job...

...another long pause...more awkward silence...and then,  
finally...

MADDIE

Well...glad you had fun...

DAVID

Yeah...glad you had fun, too.

...and they're silent again...until...there's a KNOCK at the  
door...

ANOTHER ANGLE

59

...the door...as MISS DIPESTO sticks her head in...

DIPESTO

Miss Hayes? Mr. Addison?  
Excuse me...

DAVID

(look over;  
smiles)

Always do...

...she STEPS IN, holding a sizeable stack of messages...  
sensing, perhaps, that she's interrupted a private moment...

DIPESTO

(delicately)

Oh. I...I thought this might  
be a good time to give you  
both your messages...

(and then)

...since you're both here...  
together...in the same room...

MADDIE

(taking the  
messages)

Thank you, Agnes.

...she turns to leave, then STOPS at the door...

DIPESTO

Oh...

(turning back to  
them)

One more thing...since you're  
both here...together...in  
the...

MADDIE

(patiently)

Yes, Agnes?

ON DIPESTO

60

...as sincere as only she can be...

DIPESTO

I just wanted to tell you...  
I missed this place...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

60

DIPESTO (cont'd)  
 (and then;  
 simply)  
 And I really missed both of  
 you...

ON DAVID AND MADDIE

61

...who both smile...appreciative...looking at Dipesto...

MADDIE  
 (warmly)  
 Thank you...

DIPESTO

62

...smiles back...TURNS, then EXITS, closing the door...

ANOTHER ANGLE

63

...as they both regard her for a moment...then...

DAVID  
 Ya' know...I feel the same  
 way...

MADDIE  
 (unsure)  
 Oh?

DAVID  
 Yeah...  
 (and then)  
 About missing the place, I  
 mean...

MADDIE  
 (hint of  
 disappointment)  
 Oh...

DAVID  
 Don't think I realized it  
 'til just this moment...I  
 mean, look at those messages...  
 dozens of 'em...sight like  
 that gets my juices goin'.

MADDIE  
 (dryly)  
 Your juices?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

63

DAVID

My juices. Blood's pumping, saliva's salivating, nasal drip's dripping, and you wanna know why...

MADDIE

You lost motor control?

DAVID

...I'll tell you why. Because it lets me know that while you and I kicked back for a well-deserved five, the world still turned, and through the days of our lives all God's children went right on cheating on their wives, robbing their bosses, killing their relatives and ripping the tags off their mattresses...

MADDIE

And that makes you feel good?

DAVID

Good? Great! It makes me feel alive. It makes me feel like there's a veritable backlog of potential clients waiting to flood our lobby, tell us their problems, and allow us to make this world a better place to be...and, incidentally, pay us a load of money in the process.

MADDIE

David...your juices runneth over.

(indicates messages)

It's possible that some of these don't come with built-in problems.

DAVID

I hate to be the one to burst it, but that's a bubble with "Hindenberg" written all over it.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

63

DAVID (cont'd)  
 (takes the stack  
 of messages from  
 her hand and holds  
 them up)

Pick a card, any card, and  
 say hello to the next  
 beneficiary of our altruism.

...Maddie just looks at him...then, resigned, she picks  
 one of the message slips and reads it...reacting visibly...

DAVID

'Nuff said?

MADDIE

It's from your father...

ON DAVID

64

...as he's stopped cold...clearly caught off-guard...and  
 then...

DAVID

My father?

(grabbing it  
 back;  
 reading it)

Forgot to take the jokers  
 out of the deck...

(thumbs through  
 stack;  
 reacting)

They're almost all from him...

ANOTHER ANGLE

65

...on the two of them...

MADDIE

I never hear you talk about him...  
 (and then)

How long since you've seen  
 him?

DAVID

(shrugs;  
 still looking  
 at messages)

Two, three years...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

65

MADDIE

Two or three years? Maybe  
it's important.

...David just stands there...shrugs...and then...

MADDIE

(sensing)

You are going to call him...

DAVID

(no real spark)

Yeah...sure...

...David still stands there...

MADDIE

Today?

DAVID

(gives her a  
look)

Were you a hall monitor  
in high school...

(and then)

I'll call him...

(and then)

Today...

(and then)

Sometime...

MADDIE

(realizing)

But you're not looking forward  
to it...

DAVID

I didn't say I wasn't looking  
forward to it, I am looking  
forward to it...I mean, he's  
my father...

MADDIE

...just looks at him...then...

66

DAVID

...just shrugs...looks away...at nothing in particular...  
and finally...

67

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

67

DAVID

I don't know why I'm not  
looking forward to it...

(and then)

...I just don't think about  
him much...

(and then)

Truth is, as fathers go, he  
wasn't all that bad...nice  
teeth, no scars, good little  
dancer...

(and then)

It's just that...I dunno...  
when I think about being a  
kid...having him as my  
father...

ON MADDIE

68

...listening...watching...then, offering...

MADDIE

There was something missing?

ON DAVID

69

...nodding...

DAVID

Yeah...him.

(and then)

He was in p.r., never home  
...I was pretty young when  
they split...

MADDIE

70

...putting the best face on it...

MADDIE

At least he calls now...at least  
he wants to get together...

ANOTHER ANGLE

71

...to include both...

DAVID

Yeah...kind of like a business  
acquaintance...

(thinks a moment;  
and then)

Hell, for all I know he's  
already skipped town...

...she nods...not terribly convinced...then A KNOCK at the  
door precedes...

MS. DIPESTO

72

...sticking her head in...

DIPESTO

Mr. Addison? Phone call...  
I think it's your father  
again.

DAVID

73

...looks at Maddie...a slight smile...

DAVID

Guess not...

MADDIE

74

...looks back...with an expression as if to say "good luck"...  
and we HOLD ON HER as we HEAR THE DOOR CLOSE behind David's  
exit...

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON A BLOODY MARY

75

...untouched...sitting on a polished, stainless steel surface  
...as a BOWL OF NUTS is set down beside it...and, after a  
moment, A HAND absently reaches into it...picking up a few...  
and we FOLLOW IT UP TO...

DAVID

76

...who puts them in his mouth...and chews them in the most perfunctory way...staring off...he stirs his drink, but still doesn't drink it...then mechanically reaches down for a few more nuts...

ANOTHER ANGLE

77

...as we see David sitting by himself at a bar...the lights low...tasteful decor...the BARTENDER, cleaning glasses in front of him, notices David's preoccupation...and finally...

BARTENDER

(casual)

Dog just die?

DAVID

(looks up)

Father showed up...

...the bartender nods, knowingly...then they lapse back into silence...he cleans a few more glasses...then we hear a PHONE RING...and the bartender answers...

BARTENDER

Watering Hole, Bud here...

(and then;

to David)

Your name David Addison?

DAVID

78

...looks up...nods...then, taking the receiver...

DAVID

Thanks...

(then, into  
phone)

Hello...

VOICE (O.C.)

(very serious)

David, it's Dad...

(deep breath;  
then)

Look, uh...I had a little trouble on the way over, and ...I'm not going to make it for awhile...

DAVID

(checking watch)

...How long?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

78

VOICE (O.C.)

Seven to ten...if I'm  
lucky...

DAVID

(unsure)

...what?

VOICE (O.C.)

(spilling out)

It was a simple red light, I  
swear...cop pulls me over, one  
thing leads to another, next  
thing I know he pops the trunk  
on my rental car...and right  
next to the spare tire's a  
spare body...

DAVID

(face draining)

...A body? In the trunk?

VOICE (O.C.)

Well, not a whole body, but  
enough so they know what it  
was...

DAVID

Where are you now?

VOICE (O.C.)

Downtown, in holding.

DAVID

Don't panic, I can be down  
there in twenty minutes. We  
can take care of this. I  
promise.

VOICE (O.C.)

I hope so...

ANOTHER ANGLE

79

...as David hangs up the phone, throws a bill on the counter,  
and makes a HASTY EXIT out a door into...

A HALLWAY

80

...heading for the exit outside when he HEARS...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

80

VOICE (O.C.)

Hey, pal, what's the rush?

...and David TURNS SHARPLY, hearing this...then REACTS as he sees...

CHARLES ADDISON

81

...his father...standing by the pay phones...still holding the receiver...a guilty smile on his good-looking face...he's nattily dressed...well groomed...a man who obviously cares about his appearance, but is still casual and disarming... his expression always seems to have a slight smile at the ready...

CHARLES

(an apologetic shrug)

You gumshoes are all alike...  
no sense of humor...

ANOTHER ANGLE

82

...as David stares at him a moment...exhaling deeply...his heartbeat returning to normal...then, finally...

DAVID

You son of a...

CHARLES

Careful, that's your grand-  
mother you're about to smear...

(hangs up phone;  
his smile broadening)

Hi, son.

...as David hesitates, then finally smiles as well...and,  
STEPPING FORWARD...

DAVID

Hi, Dad...

...they shake hands warmly...then stand there a beat...each looking at the other...taking each other in...not quite comfortable...until, finally...

CHARLES

Look at you...

...David just shrugs, doesn't know what to say...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

82

CHARLES  
 (a moment;  
 then)  
 ...You get a little taller?

DAVID  
 Don't think so...  
 (and then)  
 You get a little wider?

CHARLES  
 (patting stomach)  
 Suppose I have...

...they both smile...the silence a beat longer than is comfortable...until...

CHARLES  
 Well...

DAVID  
 Well...

CHARLES  
 So whadya say, ready to tie on  
 the ol' feedbag?

DAVID

83

...smiles...shrugs affirmatively...and...

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS STREET - DAY

84

...as they come out the door and begin walking casually along the street...

CHARLES  
 ...found this great little  
 French place down the block...  
 wonderful crepes...attractive  
 waitresses...and sky high  
 prices. Which is why God  
 invented expense accounts.

...they walk along for a moment...then...

DAVID  
 (the usual)  
 So...how long you been in  
 town?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

84

CHARLES  
Little over a week...

DAVID  
Got somethin' goin'?

CHARLES  
(as if he hasn't  
heard)  
Oh, hey...saw your brother.

DAVID  
Oh yeah?  
(and then)  
...what's he up to?

CHARLES  
Oh, you know Richard...little  
of this, little of that...

DAVID  
Mmm...

...they walk along for a few moments more, silent again...  
then...suddenly...

DAVID  
What're you doing out...?  
(and then)  
Sorry, what were you...

CHARLES  
How's the detective bus...?  
(and then)  
David, I...

...and then...

DAVID  
My fault, I do that with  
everyone...

CHARLES

85

...seems to gather his thoughts...treading lightly...he  
STARTS TO SPEAK...then hesitates...and then, finally...

CHARLES  
David...look...there's a  
reason I wanted to see you...  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

85

CHARLES (cont'd)  
 something I wanted to tell you  
 ...and there's no sense  
 putting it off...  
 (nervous laugh)  
 God, I've got butterflies...  
 (then)  
 I'm going to get married.  
 Remarried...

DAVID

86

...comes to a stop...his expression not changing...as he  
 seems to take this information in for a moment...until...

ON CHARLES

87

...looking directly at his son...sincerely...really selling  
 himself...

CHARLES

She lives in Philly...her  
 family's out here, that's why  
 we came back to get married...

DAVID

88

...looks back at his father...his feelings well hidden...

ANOTHER ANGLE

89

...as Charles still reads him for a sign...any sign...

CHARLES

(awkwardly)  
 This isn't easy for me...I  
 know your mom will always be  
 ...and always should be...I  
 mean, I don't want you to  
 think I'm...

DAVID

(interrupting)  
 Dad...you don't have to  
 explain...I understand.

CHARLES

(nods;  
 and then)  
 ...Which doesn't always mean  
 "accept"...

ON DAVID

90

...who tries to loosen up a little...still thinking this through...

DAVID

Look...if you're really sure  
...I mean, if this is the  
woman who makes you happy...  
then I'm happy for you.

(looking at him;  
smiles)

Honest.

CHARLES

91

...seems visibly relieved to hear this...a burden lifted...  
and then...

CHARLES

It's good to hear that...  
because I have one more shoe  
to drop...

(and then)

I want you to be my best man.

DAVID

92

...is clearly not prepared for this either...taken aback...  
unsure he's actually heard the question...

ON THE TWO MEN

93

...as Charles notices this reaction...

CHARLES

(smiles)

Honest...

(and then)

Whadaya say?

DAVID

94

...smiles... his surprise turning to acceptance...nods...and  
then...

ANGLE ON THE TWO MEN

95

...as David takes a step toward his father...as if to hug him...  
but he can't quite get it done...and the two of them stand  
there, awkwardly...much the same as Maddie and David in  
the office...and then...a compromise...as David extends his

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

95

hand...and the two SHAKE...not quite the warm moment one  
might expect...and...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. MADDIE'S OFFICE

96

...where we see Maddie...sitting at her desk...the room is dark as she works by her desk lamp going through the mail ...looking somewhat bored by the task...maybe a little preoccupied...then she looks over and happens to notice THE FROG David gave her...picks it up...SMILES...and then, suddenly, she hears a KNOCK at the door...and quickly puts it down, as...

DAVID

97

...sticks his head through the slightly open door...then...

DAVID

Lights are on...anyone home?

MADDIE

98

...looks up...

MADDIE

(cautiously)

Depends...

ANOTHER ANGLE

99

...as David opens the door wider...ENTERING...

DAVID

Depends? On what?

MADDIE

If this is business or pleasure...

DAVID

Hard to say...business with you is always a pleasure...

MADDIE

Gee...and me without my hip boots...

...as David saunters over to her desk...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

99

DAVID  
(indicates  
outer office)  
...All the Mouseketeers go  
home?

MADDIE  
They tend to do that at  
night.

DAVID  
Mm...just leaves the big  
cheese...

...Maddie just looks at him...there's a moment of silence...  
then...

MADDIE  
(a little  
expectantly)  
So...?

DAVID  
So...?

MADDIE  
(trying to  
be casual)  
...So how'd it go?

DAVID  
(trying to  
be casual  
back)  
How'd what go?

MADDIE  
Lunch. The one you left  
for six and a half hours  
ago.

DAVID  
Well, the vichyssoise was  
cold and the game hen was  
a little foul...

MADDIE  
I mean with your father...

DAVID  
Actually...it went great...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

99

MADDIE  
(a little  
surprised)

It did?

DAVID  
Yeah...it did...  
(and then)  
...Caught up on old times...  
caught up on new times...  
mentioned he was getting  
married...

MADDIE  
Married?

DAVID  
Yeah, you know...man and  
woman, fidelity, panty hose  
on the shower...

MADDIE  
That's terrific...  
(and then)  
...isn't it?

DAVID  
Sure it is...kinda short no-  
tice, day after tomorrow...  
matter of fact, there's go-  
ing to be a little reception  
for 'em tonight...nothing  
too fancy...food's free,  
liquor's free...  
(and then)  
You free?

...Maddie reacts a little surprised...and then...

MADDIE  
Free?  
(and then)  
Me?

DAVID  
(quickly)  
Yeah, right, you're probably  
busy...just back from vacation...  
lots to catch up on...

MADDIE  
Are you asking me if I'd like  
to go with you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

99

DAVID

Me?

(and then)

Well...actually...my dad said  
he'd like to meet you...

...Maddie looks back at him...smiles a little...

MADDIE

Your dad?

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - NIGHT

100

...David is driving...Maddie sitting beside him...both are  
dressed nicely...tastefully...two people going to a party...

DAVID

I'm happy for the guy...I  
really am. This is a big  
step forward.

MADDIE

"Big step forward"?

DAVID

I said it first.

MADDIE

You make it sound like he  
just got the training wheels  
off his bike.

DAVID

I just mean it's kind of a  
mature thing for him to do,  
deciding to settle down...  
he's one of those guys who  
thinks maturity's some in-  
fectious disease...you know,  
sudden attacks of responsibil-  
ity and committment...whenever  
he catches it, he goes to bed  
for a couple of days...usually  
with someone new.

(and then)

I don't mean to knock him...  
it's just that...being around  
him's always been a lot of work  
for me...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

100

MADDIE

Mmm...

(and then)

...right...

(hint of play-  
fullness)

...the kind of thing where  
you always feel like you're  
making concessions for the  
other person...

DAVID

(nodding)

Yeah...

MADDIE

...or where that person gets  
obnoxious or embarrasses you  
in front of other people...

DAVID

Exactly...

MADDIE

...to the point where it's  
easy to forget why you're  
even bothering to spend time  
with that person?

DAVID

Bingo...

(and then)

Have I told you this before?

MADDIE

Just a lucky guess...

DAVID

(gives her  
a look;  
then)

Anyway, that's why this  
marriage thing is probably  
good for him. He's trying  
to turn it around.

MADDIE

I'm glad I'm getting a chance  
to meet him.

(glances at  
David)

Though I'm a little surprised  
he invited me...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

100

DAVID  
(shrugs)  
He knows we're partners...

MADDIE  
True...  
(and then;  
"nonchalant")  
What else have you told him?

DAVID  
You know, the basics...height,  
weight, favorite vegetable...  
(and then)  
I said the radish.

MADDIE  
Yes, well...  
(and then)  
...remind me to thank him.

DAVID  
Thank him?

MADDIE  
For the invitation.

DAVID  
(realizing)  
Oh.  
(and then)  
No need.

MADDIE  
No need?

DAVID  
No need. It's not important.  
Taken care of.

MADDIE  
Oh.  
(and then)  
Okay.  
(thinks a  
moment;  
and then)  
It still wouldn't hurt to  
thank him myself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

100

DAVID

Maddie, I know him, it'd make him uncomfortable.

MADDIE

Uncomfortable? David, I'm talking about a thank you, not a seduction.

...David doesn't react...she rides along in silence for a moment...then, beginning to enjoy this...

MADDIE

The more I think about this, the odder it seems... inviting me to something like this...

DAVID

(discomfort  
growing)

I told you, he just wants to meet you.

MADDIE

Mm...

(and then;  
having fun)

But he could've come by the office...or we could've had lunch...

DAVID

He's getting married, he has a lot of things to do, to take care of...

MADDIE

...That's true...

(and then)

Still seems odd, though... this is family...and people close to the family...

(and then;  
pointedly)

I suppose if you asked me, well I'd kind of understand...

...David stares straight ahead, not wanting to continue this...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

100

MADDIE

But him...it's odd, that's  
all.

DAVID

(irritated)  
It's an odd world.

MADDIE

Sure is...

...she looks over at David...who refuses to look back...  
then, turning away she smiles to herself...after a moment...

CUT TO:

AN IRON DOOR-KNOCKER

101

...in the shape of a LION'S HEAD...and a HAND comes INTO  
FRAME, pulls out the lever, and KNOCKS LOUDLY...PULL BACK  
to reveal...

DAVID AND MADDIE

102

...on a FRONT PORCH...of a modest yet good-sized house...  
David is knocking on the door...and he CONTINUES rapping  
loudly, until...

MADDIE

I think they've heard you...

DAVID

(stops;  
looks at her)  
Can't help it...got a thing  
for big knockers...

...before Maddie can react, the DOOR OPENS...and a somewhat  
attractive MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN stands there...

WOMAN

Yes?

DAVID

This is Maddie Hayes...I'm  
David Addison...

WOMAN

(realizes;  
brightens)  
The best man?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

102

DAVID  
(smiles)  
I like to think so...

...she opens the door further, allowing them to enter...

INT. FOYER

103

...adjacent to a LIVING ROOM where we see the reception in full swing...THIRTY PEOPLE, EATING, DRINKING and TALKING fill the room...the woman CLOSES the DOOR behind them...

WOMAN  
Make yourselves at home...

...the woman walks off...and David and Maddie survey the new surroundings...

MADDIE  
This is nice...

DAVID  
Sure, but do they validate parking?

MADDIE  
(a look;  
then)  
See your father yet?

DAVID  
(looking around)  
Nope...and I figured the bar'd be a sure bet...

MADDIE  
Do you know what his fiance looks like?

DAVID  
Nope...  
(and then;  
sotto)  
But I oughtta tell you...I'm not expecting much...

MADDIE  
What do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

103

DAVID

I know my dad.. And I know  
this woman. Kind of woman  
that's been around the pool.  
Thinks man's greatest inven-  
tion is the double shot glass...  
or the bowling ball...you  
know, dont' drink and drive,  
drink and bowl...

MADDIE

(hint of dis-  
dain)

You haven't even met her.  
You could try being a little  
more open-minded about it...

DAVID

Probably. But what fun is  
that?

(and then)

Let's go find him...

ANOTHER ANGLE

104

...as he starts into the living room...but Maddie takes  
his arm, stopping him...

MADDIE

David...when I meet your  
father...is there anything  
special I should say...or  
do...?

DAVID

What, like curtsy, speak when  
you're spoken to...he's just  
a P.R. rep from Philly...

MADDIE

105

...nods, agreeably...but isn't quite convincing...and...

DAVID

106

...looks over at Maddie...noticing...and smiles...

DAVID

(sincere)

Maddie...he'll like you.

ON THE TWO OF THEM

107

...as Maddie shrugs, a little self-consciously...and then, suddenly...

VOICE (O.C.)

(shouting)

Excuse me, if I could have your attention...

ANOTHER ANGLE

108

...as EVERYONE in the room TURNS to see DAVID'S FATHER halfway down the stairs, addressing the room...he's probably had a drink or two...in addition to the one in his hand...

CHARLES

(loudly)

I'd like you all to meet someone...someone very special...took time out from peeking in windows to be here tonight...direct from my loins...

(looks to

David)

David...come on up here!

DAVID

109

...reacts...he doesn't want to go up there...but...

MADDIE

110

...gives him a nod...urging him to go ahead...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE

111

,...as David reluctantly gives in...and starts toward the stairs...making his way through the crowd...as...

CHARLES

(to the room)

It's not often a man gets to introduce his own son before his wedding, am I right?

...the people chuckle as David arrives at the stairway... and steps up one step...

CHARLES

David Addison...my main man... my best man...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

111

...the crowd APPLAUDS politely...and David just stands there...a little embarrassed...as Charles puts his arm around him...

CHARLES

(too loudly)

I'm awfully proud of this young man. Kicked out of the best schools in the east, he headed west to dedicate his life to crime. Solving it, that is. And now, he's the best damn private dick in town...

DAVID

(uncomfortable)

Dad...

CHARLES

Embezzlement, kidnappings, murder, you name it, he handles it...

DAVID

(stronger)

Dad...

CHARLES

Fact, if any of you have a husband or wife you can't account for...

DAVID

(emphatic)

Dad.

...Charles stops...and looks over at David...

DAVID

(quietly;  
urging)

I'm not a client...

CHARLES

(to the room)

The night's still young...

...there's mild laughter from the crowd...as...

MADDIE

...watches, amused...then reacts, when she sees...

112

## ANOTHER ANGLE

113

...as David and Charles come down from the stairs and approach her...

DAVID

Dad, this is...

CHARLES

(admiringly;  
extending  
his hand)

No introduction necessary,  
I used to buy your shampoo  
just for the picture.

...Maddie smiles, and shakes his hand...

MADDIE

Thank you...I'm happy to  
meet you, Mr. Addison...

...Charles steps back...looks at her...and shakes his head  
in amazement...and then...

CHARLES

(to Maddie)

It's a bit premature to be  
thinking about my first ex-  
tramarital affair...but I'd  
like to put in an early bid...

...David reacts, uncomfortable...

MADDIE

(unsure of  
what to say)

Well...

CHARLES

Naturally, it would be a  
purely physical thing...

MADDIE

(smiles)

Naturally...

CHARLES

Good. Then it's set.

DAVID

(seeing an  
opening;  
changing  
subject)

So...do we get to meet the  
lucky lady?

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

113

CHARLES  
(looks at David)  
Do Czechs mate? Are brides  
made?

...Maddie glances at David...

DAVID  
He got it from me...

CHARLES  
She's upstairs with her  
mother...I'll go find her...

ON CHARLES AND DAVID

114

...as Charles pulls David aside:..

CHARLES  
(regarding  
Maddie)  
I approve...

DAVID  
(reacting)  
We work together...it's a  
business arrangement...

CHARLES  
Of course, son...  
(wry smile)  
That's what I meant...

...and he WALKS OFF...and then...

ANOTHER ANGLE

115

...as David rejoins Maddie...

MADDIE  
(smiles)  
Definitely your father...

DAVID  
Mm...

MADDIE  
(considers for  
a moment;  
and then)  
You're different with him...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

115

DAVID

How do you mean?

MADDIE

I don't know...you just seem like...someone's son...

DAVID

I hate to break it to you, but I've been one most of my life.

MADDIE

I just mean you seem more...

DAVID

(challenging)

What?

MADDIE

(pointedly)

Defensive.

...David looks at her...realizing...then shrugs and smiles... they stand there a moment...until...

VOICE (O.C.)

Maddie, David...I'd like you to meet Stephanie...

...and the two of them turn to see...

CHARLES AND STEPHANIE

116

...both smiling...Charles for good reason, as Stephanie is a very attractive THIRTY-YEAR-OLD WOMAN...nearly half his age...and...

DAVID

117

...is stopped in his tracks as he sees her for the first time...taken aback...he STARES at her, something about her bothers him immensely...and...

STEPHANIE

118

...notices his stare...and reacts, unsure, looking at him as well...until...

MADDIE

119

...notices as well, and jumps in...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

119

MADDIE  
 (extending  
 her hand)  
 Nice to meet you, Stephanie...  
 I'm Maddie Hayes...I work  
 with David...

STEPHANIE

120

...looks to Maddie, and shakes her hand...

STEPHANIE  
 Nice to meet you, too...

...and then she looks at...

DAVID

121

...who looks away, unable to make eye contact...he clears  
 his throat...and...

CHARLES

122

...notices all of this...and puts his arm around Stephanie...

CHARLES  
 (a little too  
 eager)  
 And this is my son...David,  
 say hello to Stephanie...

ANOTHER ANGLE

123

...as David awkwardly, and a bit uncertainly, looks at  
 her and extends his hand...

DAVID  
 Hello...

STEPHANIE  
 (shaking his  
 hand;  
 sensing an  
 awkwardness)  
 Hi...  
 (and then)  
 I'm...glad you're going to  
 be in our wedding...  
 (trying)  
 ...its made your dad very  
 happy...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

123

...David just nods...and Maddie and Charles watch, aware that it's not going well...

CHARLES

(to David)

So whaddaya think? Did I roll a seven or what?

DAVID

124

...looks away...clearly he doesn't want to deal with this... and...

ANOTHER ANGLE

125

...as Charles watches...then turns nervously to Stephanie...

CHARLES

Well, there's something I never thought I'd see... David Addison with nothing to say. This kid's always had an answer for everything. Like the first time I let him use my car...

(to David)

Remember that night, David...

(to others)

He came home without it, told me it had to be towed... I yelled, "Towed?!" and he looked at me like I was crazy and said, "Dad, I couldn't just leave it in the river."

...Charles LAUGHS, and Stephanie and Maddie join in...but David's preoccupied...

DAVID

Excuse me...

...and he walks off, rather quickly...and...

CHARLES

126

...stares after him...then looks at...

STEPHANIE

127

...who just looks back at him...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE

128

...as both of them look at Maddie, who stands there at a loss...concerned and a little helpless...and...

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM

129

...as David walks in and closes the door behind him...he stands at the mirror a moment, trying to sort through things... then sits on the closed toilet...thinking...confused...until...

THE DOOR

130

...OPENS...and Charles storms in, almost slamming it behind him...

ANOTHER ANGLE

131

...as he looks down at David...at a loss...angry...not knowing where to start...and David just sits there, not looking up...until...

CHARLES

Care to let me in on it?

DAVID

On what?

CHARLES

(incredulous)

On what? On what happened at that so-called meeting out there.

DAVID

(searching  
for the  
words)

Dad...

(not find-  
ing them)

...it's nothing...

CHARLES

(anger rising)

Nothing?

DAVID

I mean it's not your problem...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

131

CHARLES

The hell it isn't! I introduce my son...my best man... to the woman I plan to spend the rest of my life with... and you not only weren't polite, or even merely decent, you nearly went out of your way to make her and everyone else feel like garbage! In the living room of her parents' house!

DAVID

I'm sorry...

CHARLES

Sorry?! I want to know why you did it...and I want to know now!

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

132

...where the talk has turned to SILENCE...a heavy silence... everyone visibly uncomfortable as they HEAR from the bathroom...

CHARLES' VOICE (O.C.)

Is it your mother?! Is that it?! I left her twenty years ago and you still want me to pay for it?!

ON MADDIE AND STEPHANIE

133

...exchanging uneasy glances...embarrassed...as they listen as well...

CHARLES' VOICE (O.C.)

Twenty years and you still don't want me to be happy? I think that stinks!

BACK IN THE BATHROOM

134

...where David finally stands up...wanting to put an end to this....

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

134

DAVID

This has nothing to do with  
you and mom...

CHARLES

(realizing)

Then it's Stephanie...

DAVID

Dad, look, this isn't the  
place...

CHARLES

What is it, her hair? Nail  
polish? Makeup? No? How  
about her age, David, is  
that what you don't like?  
That she's young enough to  
be your wife?

DAVID

Dad, please...

CHARLES

I want to know, David...it's  
her age, isn't it?

DAVID

Will you let it drop?

CHARLES

(pushing)

Isn't it?

DAVID

Dad...

CHARLES

Answer me!

DAVID

(blurring it  
out)

Do you even know her that  
well, do you know that much  
about her?

...David sighs...he's said more than he wanted to...and  
Charles reacts...there is something bothering him...and  
then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

134

CHARLES

(calmly;  
evenly)

David...I didn't come here  
for your approval. I'm still  
the only father in this re-  
lationship...and I'm definitely  
the only one walking down that  
aisle.

...David looks down at the floor...silently...then, finally...

DAVID

(looking up)

Maybe I should leave...

...Charles pauses a moment...then STEPS ASIDE, giving him  
room...David glances at him, then walks out, into...

THE LIVING ROOM

135

...where the crowd of people try to pretend they didn't  
hear...and David walks by them...and OUT THE DOOR...as...

MADDIE AND STEPHANIE

136

...watch him go...embarrassed...unable to look at each  
other...as we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO



ACT THREE

FADE IN:

CLOSE ON A PHONE

137

...as it RINGS and a button LIGHTS UP...then a HAND pushes the button, picks up the receiver...and we FOLLOW IT up to...

MS. DIPESTO

138

...behind her desk at the office...

DIPESTO

Blue Moon Detective Agency...  
 You can come to us,  
 When the job seems too large,  
 Use our easy-pay plan  
 Or of course you can charge,  
 Two-for-one specials are  
 offered week-ly,  
 If you misplace two people,  
 We'll find the second one, free.

(listens then)

Can you hold please?

(puts caller on

hold;

then, to room)

Does anyone know the number  
 for the Suicide Prevention  
 Hotline?

(gets no response;

shrugs;

then, punching

caller back on)

I'm sorry, but...

(and then)

Hello...Hello?

...she shrugs and hangs up...and then...

MADDIE

139

...ENTERS the office from the hall and stops at the desk...

MADDIE

Is Mr. Addison here?

DIPESTO

Yes, Miss Hayes...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

139

...Maddie TURNS and STARTS towards David's office...and then...

DIPESTO

And no, Miss Hayes...

...causing her to STOP and TURN BACK...

MADDIE

(patiently)

Which is it, Miss Dipesto?

DIPESTO

Well, he is and he isn't...

MADDIE

(trying to maintain)

Let's try again...is  
Mr. Addison in that office?

DIPESTO

Yes...Mister Addison is in  
that office...

...then, as Maddie TURNS for his office again...

DIPESTO

...but Mister Addison isn't...

...and Maddie STOPS...her irritation showing...but BEFORE SHE  
TURNS BACK AROUND...

DIPESTO

(apologetic)

Maybe you should see for  
yourself...

...and Maddie...takes a deep breath...then marches to the door  
of...

DAVID'S OFFICE

140

...as Maddie ENTERS...ready to address David...then STOPS SHORT  
...surprised...as she sees...

CHARLES ADDISON

141

...who is standing by the window...and who looks over at the  
entrance...also expecting David...his expression changing when  
he sees it's Maddie...

ANOTHER ANGLE

142

...as there's a brief, awkward moment...and then...

CHARLES  
(managing a  
slight smile)

Hello...

MADDIE

Hello...

...and then...

CHARLES  
(an explanation)  
I was just waiting for  
David...

(and then;  
trying to  
be casual)  
...What time's he get in?

MADDIE

Well...

(also trying to  
be casual)  
About now...usually...  
(and then;  
covering)  
Of course, sometimes he's  
late...

CHARLES

More often than not, if I  
know my son...

...his words just hang there...the irony not lost on either of  
them...

MADDIE

(quickly)  
If there's anything I can get  
you...

CHARLES

(quickly back)  
No, no...thank you...I'm  
fine...

MADDIE

143

...nods...smiles...starts out...then PAUSES...wanting to say  
something more...and...

CHARLES 144  
 ...notices...perhaps wanting to hear something more... but...

MADDIE 145  
 ...just shrugs again...awkwardly...and...

MADDIE  
 ...You're sure?

CHARLES 146  
 ...smiles...shakes his head appreciatively...and...

MADDIE 147  
 ...somewhat self-consciously...backs OUT OF the office and into...

THE LOBBY 148  
 ...closing the door behind her...then CROSSES the lobby...comes to her door...starts to enter...then PAUSES...standing there for a moment...a long moment...then suddenly, she TURNS and GOES BACK across the lobby and into...

DAVID'S OFFICE 149  
 ...the door SWINGING OPEN as she ENTERS...

MADDIE  
 (almost blurting)  
 Mr. Addison, it's none of my business, but about last night...

CHARLES 150  
 ...looks up...expectantly...obviously hopeful for any information... and...

MADDIE 151  
 ...comes to a stop...then...

MADDIE  
 (backing off)  
 ...I wish I could tell you why...  
 (and then)  
 I wish I could give you a clue  
 ...even a guess...but I can't...

ANOTHER ANGLE

152

...as Charles looks at her...nods...and then...

CHARLES

(a wry smile)

...He's still the most head-  
strong of the two boys...

...Maddie gives him a look...she knows what he means...

CHARLES

(overly glib)

Here's a strange question for  
a father to ask a virtual stranger...  
(and then, simply)  
...what's my son like...?

MADDIE

(unsure)

...What's he like?

CHARLES

To work with...to be with...  
for more than a day or two  
at a time...

...Maddie gives the question some thought...not sure how  
to put it...and then...

MADDIE

That's not an easy question  
to answer...

CHARLES

Let me tell you what it's been  
like for me..in twenty five words  
or less...

(and then, straightforward)

...a lot of work...

MADDIE

...reacts...she's heard this before...

153

ON CHARLES

...as he seems to think about this out loud...

154

CHARLES

With Richard...I always knew what  
he was thinking...what he was up to...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

154

CHARLES (cont'd)

...but David...there was always this private part of him that he wouldn't give up...that I just couldn't get to...that a father wants to get to...

(shaking his head)

I used to think it was the divorce... and I took every chance to make up for that...to talk to him about it...but nothing changed. And I began to think it was just me he was reacting to... maybe we're too much alike... maybe he's not happy about something he sees...

(and then)

I finally just had to accept it...we'd always be family...but never be close... we exchange cards at Christmas... get together every two or three years... and I try to be content with that...

ANOTHER ANGLE

155

...on the two of them...obviously sympathizing...and then...

MADDIE

If it helps...David's never said anything like that to me...

CHARLES

No...

(matter of factly)

...he probably thinks I'm the problem...

(and then)

That's understandable...

(and then)

It's not important, really...

MADDIE

156

...thinks about what he said...and then...

MADDIE

Excuse me for asking, but...why did you ask him to be your best man?

CHARLES

157

...looks at her...simply...honestly...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

157

CHARLES

He's still my son...I still  
have hope...

(and then)

I thought now...seeing how  
happy I am with Stephanie...

(he can't finish;

and then)

I know it isn't her age...not  
with David...I have no idea  
what happened last night...

(and then,

saddened)

He just won't let me in, Maddie...

ANOTHER ANGLE

158

...as they both just stand there...nothing much else to say...  
and the silence becoming awkward again...until finally...

MADDIE

Mr. Addison...I'm sure Stephanie  
will want to be with you...and  
you've got so much to do...why  
don't you go back. I'll tell  
him you were here...

...Charles thinks a moment...nods...then...

CHARLES

Maybe that's a good idea...

(and then,

sincerely)

Thank you...

...he smiles...walks past her...and EXITS out the door, leaving...

MADDIE

159

...to stand there...thinking...sorting through all of this for  
a moment...and then...

CUT TO:

THE LOBBY

160

...where a MAN in a MESSENGER UNIFORM is at Dipesto's desk  
as she signs something on his clipboard...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

160

MESSENGER

Thank you, ma'am...

...whereupon he gives a perplexed Dipesto an envelope,  
and LEAVES as...

MADDIE

161

...comes out of David's office...crossing to hers...then...

DIPESTO

Miss Hayes?

(and then)

I don't understand...

MADDIE

(absently)

It's a long story, Miss Dipesto...

DIPESTO

(confused)

How did you know...it just came.

...Maddie looks over at her, confused...

DIPESTO

(holds up envelope)

It's for Mr. Addison...a refund  
check...for his hotel room in  
Mexico.

MADDIE

Oh...just put it on his desk...

...she continues to her office...then STOPS...as something  
registers...TURNING BACK to Dipesto...

MADDIE

...a refund check...

DIPESTO

(innocently)

Isn't that what I said?

MADDIE

(walks over,  
takes envelope)

...for the hotel room...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

161

DIPESTO

(to self)

Didn't I say that, too...?

MADDIE

Do you know what that means?

DIPESTO

I don't enunciate properly?

MADDIE

(looking at  
envelope)David didn't stay in Mexico...  
he came back after two days...

(musing)

...Why would he do that? And  
why would he lie about it? Why  
would he go to the lengths he  
did to make us think he did  
when he didn't?

DIPESTO

(thinks, then)

A death in the family?

(off Maddie's look,  
explaining)He had to stay for the funeral  
and didn't want to burden us  
with the bad news...

...Maddie just looks at her...then starts back to her office...

DIPESTO

Poker game?

(and then)

He lost all his money, had  
to come home, and he was too  
ashamed to admit it.

...as Maddie opens her door...

DIPESTO

A woman?

...Maddie comes to a stop...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

161

DIPESTO

• He met her here before he left, fell madly in love, and couldn't stay away for the whole two weeks.

...Maddie turns around and shoots her a look...this is the best possibility yet...

DIPESTO

(realizing)

Oh...sorry...

(and then;

cheery)

It's probably a death.

MADDIE

(not too pleased)

I'm going out to get some breakfast...

...and she walks out the door...

CUT TO:

THE ELEVATOR - SEVERAL HOURS LATER

162

...as the DOORS OPEN...and...

A PAIR OF FEET

163

...in heels...step out and walk purposefully down the hall... pull back to reveal it's...

MADDIE

164

...and something is on her mind...as she enters...

INT. BLUE MOON LOBBY

165

...where Dipesto sees her enter...

DIPESTO

How was it?

...but Maddie doesn't stop to acknowledge her, heading straight for David's office...

MADDIE

Is Mr. Addison in yet?

...Ms. Dipesto starts to answer, but before she can, Maddie GOES straight into...

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE 166

...as she walks in and closes the door behind her...and...

DAVID 167

...who is sitting in his chair HAGGARD-LOOKING, facing the window, turns to see...

MADDIE 168

...standing at the door...striking an imposing figure...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE 169

...as an obviously bothered David reacts to the sight...

DAVID  
I don't want to talk about it.

MADDIE  
We're going to talk about it.

DAVID  
It's none of your business...

MADDIE  
I'm making it my business.

DAVID  
Maddie, you don't understand...

MADDIE  
(angry)  
You're damn right I don't!

...David looks up at that...

MADDIE  
And neither does your father...

DAVID  
What do you know about my father?

MADDIE  
At least I talked to him.  
When's the last time you tried that?

DAVID  
You talked to him?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

169

MADDIE

This morning. He was here...

...David says nothing...turns away...

MADDIE

He's your father, David, you  
broke his heart...How could  
you do that to him...especially  
now...

DAVID

It was on my list...  
"Things to do today...wash  
socks, floss, fight with  
Dad..." And it's still none  
of your business.

MADDIE

What about your father, isn't  
it any of his business, either?

(and then)

What happened, why are you acting  
like this?

DAVID

(flatly)

I had my reasons...

MADDIE

What reasons?

DAVID

(angry)

I told you, I don't want  
to talk about it. I don't  
wanna talk about it with  
him and I don't wanna talk  
talk about it with you.  
See the pattern?

(hits each word)

I...don't...want...to...  
talk...about...it...

MADDIE

(almost screams,  
frustrated, and  
then)That's your problem.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

169

DAVID  
(exasperated)  
My problem?!

MADDIE  
Your problem! The things  
you don't want to talk  
about.

DAVID  
What are you talking about?

MADDIE  
I'm talking about talking  
about it!

DAVID  
Slow down, you're stuttering...

MADDIE  
(on a roll)  
When people are close to you,  
they like to think they can  
talk about anything with you,  
they like to think you won't  
hold things in...that you  
won't have to hide your feelings...  
(pointedly)  
...or lie.

DAVID  
Lie?

MADDIE  
Lie?

DAVID  
I didn't lie. I didn't say  
enough to lie...

MADDIE  
I don't just mean last night...

DAVID  
(confused)  
What?

MADDIE  
(backing off)  
Forget it...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

169

DAVID

I'm trying, but you keep  
talking about it...

MADDIE

Okay, maybe it isn't any of  
my business...but I think you  
at least owe your father an  
explanation.

...David gets up from his chair...and, in no uncertain terms...

DAVID

And I think it's time  
for this discussion to  
end.

MADDIE

170

...stares at him for a moment...her frustration boiling over...  
then TURNS and STORMS OUT, SLAMMING the door behind her...and...

DAVID

171

...just stands there, staring at the door...

DAVID

Five-four-three-two...

...and...

THE DOOR

172

...FLIES OPEN...and...

MADDIE

173

...STRIDES back in, far from finished...

MADDIE

You know what it all boils  
down to...

DAVID

(starting for the sofa)  
Getting a lock on my door...

MADDIE

...it all boils down to selfishness!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

173

DAVID  
(sitting down)  
Should I be taking notes...?

MADDIE  
You're pouting, David. Your father comes to town and for some reason only you seem to know, you pout. Like a selfish child.

DAVID  
Maddie...

MADDIE  
You told me he doesn't feel like a father to you...Did you ever think maybe you don't feel like a son to him? Why do you suppose he asked you to be best man? Maybe because he wants things to be better. I know you think your problems are his fault...but he thinks they're yours.

DAVID  
(skeptical)  
He said that...?

MADDIE  
Talk to him, David...He's hurt...he's a real person, and he wants his son to talk to him like a real person.

DAVID

174

...takes it all in...he's at a loss, doesn't quite know what to say...

DAVID  
Sometimes talking isn't the best way...

ANOTHER ANGLE

175

...as Maddie walks over toward him...and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

175

MADDIE

I don't believe that. I don't believe there's a problem you could have that couldn't somehow be worked out by sitting down and tactfully, and lovingly, talking it out between the two of you.

DAVID

176

...thinks about that for a moment...then, deciding something, he GETS UP from the sofa and WALKS back toward his desk...not looking at Maddie...he stops...and then, finally...

DAVID

Maddie...

(pauses another long moment, and then)

I slept with her.

MADDIE

177

...is stopped cold...and just stands there...there's a LONG SILENCE...and then...

MADDIE

What?

DAVID

178

...moves around his desk, still not looking at her...

DAVID

Yeah, well, I'm not sure we ever actually...slept...

MADDIE

179

...SITS DOWN on the sofa...

MADDIE

What are you telling me?

DAVID

180

...stops at his chair...still not looking...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

180

DAVID

You better sit down...

ANOTHER ANGLE

181

...as David turns, and sees that she's already sitting...  
and then...

DAVID

I'm telling you I know more  
about my future stepmother  
than name, rank, and favorite  
recipe...

MADDIE

(coming to grips,  
confused)

But why...how...

(and then, realizing;  
the big one)

...when?

DAVID

Three years ago...

(and then, starting  
to PACE)

You may find this hard to  
believe, but there was a  
time in my life when I  
was not all that...  
discerning about that sort  
of thing...

(off Maddie's less-than-  
shocked expression)

What I mean is, I didn't always  
have to know a person to..."know"  
them...

(and then)

I was in Philly...home for the holidays...

New Year's Eve I went down to a  
favorite neighborhood bar, went  
through the usual motions...danced  
a little, drank a little, broke a  
few tables...I was treating the  
locals to a kick-butt imitation of  
Little Richard...when suddenly,  
midway between "Tutti" and "Frutti,"  
this woman joins in. Belted it out,  
right alongside me. Never heard a  
voice like that, least not in a bar...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

181

MADDIE

(still slightly in  
shock)

Stephanie...

DAVID

(nods)

Turns out she was celebrating...  
not just the new year, but some  
new job, too...vice-president  
in charge of vice-presidents,  
or something like that...

(and then)

...we ended up leaving together...

MADDIE

(getting a grip)

David...three years ago.

DAVID

Maddie...you saw the way she  
looked at me when we met...  
there's a reason for that.  
This was one of "those" nights...  
one of those "A plus" nights...  
where you're both hittin' 'em out  
of the park every time up...  
kind of thing that only happens  
a coupla' dozen times in your  
life...maybe even less...

(before Maddie can  
react)

How do ya' deal with that...  
sitting around the table,  
both of us knowing, keeping  
the secret from my dad...  
and what if someday, somewhere  
down the line, when my dad  
gets older, her interest comes  
back and she isn't able to  
control herself...it'll get ugly,  
Maddie, I just don't want to  
see that happen...

(and then, pointedly)

How do I talk to him about that?

MADDIE

...sits there...dumbfounded...for a long moment...and then...  
with a look somewhere between disgust, frustration, and  
helplessness, she STANDS and WALKS to the door, then EXITS  
without a word, closing it behind her...and...

182

DAVID

...watches...staring at the closed door...as we...

183

FADE OUT

END ACT III

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

ON A CHAIR

184

...with several WOMEN'S SUITS draped over the arms...white, peach, and yellow in color...SOFT MUSIC plays on a radio...as the CAMERA SLOWLY PANS we reveal...

INT. MADDIE'S BEDROOM

185

...and we see two or three SHOPPING BAGS on the floor next to her dresser...several PAIRS of SHOES thrown into a pile in the corner...TWO SUITCASES against the wall...an "I LOVE NEW YORK" sticker on one of them...and a LAUNDRY BAG in another corner...half-full...and just as we arrive at the laundry bag, a BALLED-UP SHIRT FLIES INTO FRAME and lands on the bag...and then another ...and then a pair of PANTS...and we...

CUT TO:

MADDIE

186

...at her bed...dressed in robe and slippers...tossing dirty clothes from a third suitcase to the laundry bag...she seems preoccupied...not in terrific spirits...and she finishes, and goes to the bag, STUFFING the remaining clothes into it...then PICKS UP the bag and heads for the door...the MUSIC FADES as we follow her out to...

THE STAIRWAY

187

...where she continues carrying the bag down the stairs... until halfway down, we HEAR the DOORBELL RING...and Maddie frowns, not ready for company...and carries the bag to the bottom of the stairs, puts it down, and walks to the door...

MADDIE

(to door)

Who is it?

VOICE (O.C.)

(upbeat, cheery)

Boston Strangler...

...Maddie frowns again, recognizing the voice...and opens the door to...

DAVID

188

...who's dressed stunningly in a BLACK TUXEDO...smiling at Maddie...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

188

DAVID  
(soft)  
Borrow a cup of pride...?

MADDIE

189

...reacts, surprised, at what he's wearing...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE

190

...on the two of them...as...

DAVID  
Seemed like a good time to  
swallow some...

...there's a moment of silence, as the meaning of all this sinks  
in...and then...

MADDIE  
(tentative)  
You're wearing a tuxedo...

DAVID  
("noticing;"  
then)  
Oh, this ol' thing...  
(and then)  
Word is, they require 'em in  
weddings...

...Maddie looks unsure...and there's another moment of silence,  
until...

DAVID  
(indicating)  
Mind if I...

...Maddie realizes, then steps back as David enters...

INT. FOYER

191

...Maddie closing the door as David steps in...and they turn and  
face each other...and she gives him a questioning look...and  
then...

DAVID  
(answering her  
look)  
I changed my mind...  
(MORE)

CONTINUED:

CONTINUED:

191

DAVID (cont'd)

(and then)

...you were right...about  
being selfish...and inconsiderate...and childish...

(and then)

...you can stop me any time...

...Maddie smiles, slightly...

DAVID

(sincerely)

This is my dad's shot at a good future, I don't have a right to take that away...

(and then)

I called him...apologized... didn't tell him the truth... just that it was a problem of mine that I'd worked out... and if he still wanted me at the wedding...

...they exchange a small smile...and then...

MADDIE

(simply)

I'm glad...

DAVID

(shrugs)

Figured I could look at it as the first thing Dad and I have had in common...

MADDIE

(frowns at that;  
and then)

Well...despite remarks like that...I'm sure having you there is going to make him very happy.

DAVID

(smiles at her;  
and then)

So you gonna get dressed?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

191

MADDIE  
(surprised)  
Get dressed?

DAVID  
Not that I mind taking you  
like that...

MADDIE  
David...  
(and then)  
I didn't know you were...that  
we were...  
(and then)  
...it's so late...

DAVID  
(shrugs)  
They'll wait...I've got the  
ring.

MADDIE  
(not sure)  
I don't think so...  
(motioning)  
...you go ahead...

ON DAVID

192

...not moving...

DAVID  
Maddie...  
(off her look)  
...you're the reason I'm  
going...  
(and then)  
I was ready to sit this one  
out when you walked into my  
office...I'd like you to be  
there...  
(and then;  
meaning it)  
Please...

ON MADDIE

193

...as she looks at him a moment...the hint of a smile forming...  
and we...

CUT TO:

A WATCH 194  
...on wrist...and we PULL BACK to see...

CHARLES 195  
...glancing at it...looking very nervous...and then, HEARING,  
looks over to see...

THE FRONT DOOR 196  
...OPEN...and in step David and Maddie...she's now very  
beautifully dressed...but aware that she's late...and  
chagrined to see...

THE ROOMFUL OF PEOPLE 197  
...already seated...turning to STARE at them...their conver-  
sations coming to a stop...

DAVID AND MADDIE 198  
...look at each other uncomfortably...the moment AWKWARD...  
SILENT...until...

ANOTHER ANGLE 199  
...Charles makes his way over...and then...joining them...

CHARLES  
(to Maddie)  
I'm glad you could make it,  
Maddie...  
(and then;  
sincerely)  
...and thank you...

...and then...

ON DAVID AND CHARLES 200  
...as Charles turns to him...and smiles...David smiles  
back...and the two of them HUG...and...

THE ROOMFUL OF PEOPLE 201  
...begin to talk among themselves...the ice broken...



ANOTHER ANGLE 202  
...as David and Charles step back from each other...

CHARLES  
Whatever it was...I'm sure  
when you get to know her like  
I know her...

MADDIE 203  
...looks to David...looking for any sign...but...

DAVID 204  
...just smiles back...relaxed...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE 205  
...as Charles smiles...and the three of them make their way  
past the crowd...the last of the people taking their seats...  
and...

MADDIE 206  
...self-consciously squeezes past several guests...taking a seat  
in the middle of the third row...then looks up to see...

CHARLES AND DAVID 207  
...taking their place up front...near the MAID OF HONOR...and...

A MINISTER 208  
...stands officiously...Bible at the ready...before a small  
pulpit...a decorative trellis behind him forming a simple but  
elegant altar...and he looks off to the side...nods...and...

HANDS ON AN ORGAN KEYBOARD 209  
...sound the beginning notes of the appropriate WEDDING MUSIC  
...and...

CHARLES 210  
...stands there expectantly...trying to hide his butterflies...  
and glances over at...

DAVID 211  
...who notices...and gives him a reassuring smile...and...

MADDIE 212  
...watches...pleased...along with the rest of...

THE CROWD 213  
...who also wait expectantly...

ANOTHER ANGLE 214  
...as we see the whole room from the back...the altar set up  
next to the stairs...the organist on the other side of the  
altar...a door behind her...and...

DAVID 215  
...still waiting...glances out at the room...and catches the  
eye of...

MADDIE 216  
...who smiles...and...

DAVID 217  
...gives a small...confident smile back...and then...the ORGAN  
MUSIC changes...and...

CHARLES 218  
...glances up, which causes...

THE CROWD 219  
...to glance up as well...as does...

DAVID 220  
...who sees...along with everyone else...

STEPHANIE 221  
...standing at the top of the stairs...who, like every woman,  
is even more beautiful as a bride...she's SMILING...an OLDER  
MAN...her father...stands at her side...

THE ROOMFUL OF PEOPLE 222  
...stands up...as...

STEPHANIE AND HER FATHER 223  
...taking some hidden cue...in unison...begin to DESCEND the  
stairs...one step at a time...a rehearsed, purposeful quality  
to their moves...as...

CHARLES	224
...watches, proudly...and...	
MADDIE	225
...watches, unable to suppress a smile...and...	
DAVID	226
...watches...his expression noncommittal...	
THE ROOM - STEPHANIE'S P.O.V.	227
...from above...on the crowd...as she SLOWLY comes down the steps...	
ON CHARLES - STEPHANIE'S P.O.V.	228
...getting CLOSER...his eyes not leaving her...his emotions and affections obvious...	
ON DAVID - STEPHANIE'S P.O.V.	229
...also getting CLOSER...like Charles, his eyes not leaving her...but, unlike Charles, his expression a little hard to fathom...a little more uncertain...	
ON MADDIE	230
...smiling...glancing from Stephanie to...	
DAVID	231
...his eyes obviously scrutinizing her...something going on in his brain...and...	
ON MADDIE	232
...as her smile becomes a little uncertain...trying to decide if his reaction is cause for concern...as...	
STEPHANIE AND HER FATHER	233
...reach the floor...and they step towards...	
CHARLES	234
...who is in his own world right now...and so is...	
DAVID	235
...as he still stares...his expression beginning to become more difficult...as if he is holding something in...	

MADDIE 236  
 ...begins to fear that this is cause for concern...as

THE CROWD 237  
 ...watches appreciatively...and...

AT THE ALTAR 238  
 ...Stephanie is ushered up by her father...and stands several feet away from Charles...near the Maid of Honor...and then...

CLOSE ON THE MINISTER 239  
 ...who smiles benignly at the two of them...and for the sacred ceremony about to begin...and then...

MINISTER  
 Dearly beloved...we are gathered together in the sight of God...

ON MADDIE 240  
 ...watching David...her suspicions growing...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...and in the face of this company...

ON DAVID 241  
 ...something coming over him...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...to join together this man and this woman...

ON CHARLES AND STEPHANIE 242  
 ...the happy...oblivious...couple...her father behind her...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...in holy matrimony...  
 (and then)  
 Who gives this woman to this man?

STEPHANIE'S FATHER  
 I do.

...whereupon he KISSES HIS DAUGHTER...and leaves the altar... as...

DAVID 243  
...watches this...biting his tongue...and...

THE MINISTER 244  
...forges ahead...

MINISTER  
Charles, will you have this  
woman to be your wedded wife...

ON MADDIE 245  
...trying to concentrate on the ceremony...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
...to live together after  
God's ordinance in the holy  
state of matrimony...

...but her mind being on...

DAVID 246  
...looking down...trying to put a cap on this...taking a deep  
breath...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
Will you love her, comfort her,  
and keep her...

ON CHARLES AND STEPHANIE 247  
...looking at one another...as...

MINISTER'S VOICE  
...in sickness and in health,  
and forsaking all others, keep  
her as long as you both shall  
live?

CHARLES  
I do.

THE MINISTER 248  
...smiles accordingly...then turns to...

STEPHANIE 249  
...who looks back at him...happily...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 249

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
Stephanie...

DAVID 250

...looks up...away...anywhere but at her...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
...will you have this man...

MADDIE 251

...now only able to watch David...her eyes bearing down on  
him...a hint of fear in them...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
...to be your lawful wedded  
husband...

CHARLES AND STEPHANIE 252

...look only at each other...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
...in the holy state of  
matrimony...

DAVID 253

...fidgets...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
...Will you love her...

MADDIE 254

...begins to fidget for him...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
...comfort her...

CHARLES AND STEPHANIE 255

...are in their own world...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
...and keep her...

DAVID 256  
 ...wipes his brow...  
 MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...in sickness...

MADDIE 257  
 ...shuts her eyes...hoping...  
 MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...and in health...

ON CHARLES AND STEPHANIE 258  
 ...blissful...  
 MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...and forsaking...

ON DAVID 259  
 ...sweating...  
 MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...all others...

ON MADDIE 260  
 MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...keep her...

ON CHARLES AND STEPHANIE 261  
 MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...as long...

ON DAVID 262  
 MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...as you both...

ON CHARLES AND STEPHANIE 263  
 MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...shall live?  
 STEPHANIE  
 (looking at Charles)  
 I do.

THE MINISTER 264  
 ...SMILING...looks out at...

THE ROOMFUL OF PEOPLE 265  
 ...who are also SMILING...and...

BACK ON THE MINISTER 266  
 ...as he grandly begins to ask THE question...

MINISTER  
 If anyone...therefore...

CLOSE ON DAVID 267  
 ...as the words seem to ECHO...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...can show just cause...

CLOSE ON MADDIE 268  
 ...her heart in her throat...shaking her head...don't do it...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...why they may not...

EXTREME CLOSE ON MINISTER'S MOUTH 269  
 ...as his lips form the fatal words...WHICH BEGIN TO SLOW  
 DOWN...TO DISTORT...

MINISTER'S MOUTH  
 ...be...law...ful...ly...joined.

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON THE PRAYER BOOK 270  
 ...as the minister's FINGER slowly...to the SLOW MOTION  
 VOICE...follows along on the printed words...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
 ...to...gethhhhh...errrrrr...  
 (and then;  
 EVEN MORE  
 SLOWLY)  
 ...lettttttt...hiiiiiiiiiiiiimmm  
 speeeeeeeak...nowwwwww...

EVEN CLOSER ON THE MINISTER'S MOUTH 271  
 ...just LIPS AND TONGUE...as we hear...

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

271

MINISTER'S MOUTH  
...orrrrrrrrr...fforrrrr...  
evvvverrrrrr

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON THE PRAYER BOOK

272

...as EACH WORD...looms GIGANTICALLY on the screen...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.S.)  
...HOOOOOLDDDDDD...HISSSSSSSS...

ON DAVID

273

...in SLOW MOTION...an arm raising to signal a HALT...as...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
PEEEEEEEEEEEAAAAAAA.....

ON MADDIE

274

...also in SLOW MOTION...reacting...horrified...her jaw dropping as her worst fears are confirmed...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)  
SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSE.....

ON DAVID

275

...NO LONGER IN SLOW MOTION...SHATTERING the moment with...

DAVID  
(holding up a  
finger;  
politely)  
Excuse me...

MADDIE

276

...STANDS from her seat...instinctively...but unable to do anything as...

CHARLES, STEPHANIE, THE MAID OF HONOR, AND THE MINISTER

277

...turn to David...uncomprehending...and...

THE CROWD

278

...all look at him...SHOCKED...then begin to BUZZ with confusion...and...

MADDIE

279

...remains standing...waiting...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE

280

...as David looks at his father...then Stephanie...and then,  
STEPPING FORWARD...

DAVID

(to Stephanie)

If I can just have a minute  
of your time...

STEPHANIE

281

...doesn't know what to say...then looks to...

CHARLES

282

...who is equally as dumbfounded...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE

283

...as David takes Stephanie by the wrist...

DAVID

(quickly)

We won't be long...

...and before anyone knows what's happening he YANKS HER from  
the altar and RUSHES to the nearest door...which SWINGS into...

THE KITCHEN

284

...where a number of SURPRISED KITCHEN HELPERS...readying trays  
of food...react to the unlikely intrusion...

DAVID

(to kitchen help,  
indicating other  
room)

Start with the finger foods  
'n see if the organist knows  
"Lady of Spain..."  
(and, when they  
don't move)

Vamoos!

...and, as they do, he turns back to...

STEPHANIE

285

...who just stares back...in disbelief...as...

DAVID

286

...forges ahead...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

286

DAVID

(words tumbling  
out)

I know, I thought I could  
hold it in, I thought I could  
live with it, I thought I  
could be unselfish, but that's  
what I get for thinking...

STEPHANIE

(angry)

David, what is...

DAVID

I know it's bad timing, I know  
what I did, but you know as  
well as I do we can't tip-toe  
around the truth forever.

STEPHANIE

(afraid to ask)

...The truth?

DAVID

Yeah...the truth...

...whereupon...

THE SWINGING DOOR

287

...opens and the Minister...angry...sticks his head in...

MINISTER

What do you think you're  
doing?

ANOTHER ANGLE

288

...and David whips around...

DAVID

(quickly)

"Speaking now,"...I hate  
holding my peace...

(hand on heart)

A few more minutes, padre,  
swear to your boss...

...David PUSHES THE DOOR CLOSED on him and turns back to  
Stephanie...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

288

DAVID  
(resuming)  
Yeah...the truth...about  
Philly...  
(and then;  
pointedly)  
Three years ago.

STEPHANIE  
(cautiously)  
Three years ago...

DAVID  
Okay, I'll say it...Sloan's  
Piano Bar and Grill...

STEPHANIE  
(carefully)  
Yes...I remember Sloan's...

...whereupon...

THE SWINGING DOOR

289

...opens...and it's Charles...he looks at Stephanie, sees  
she's all right, then to David...

CHARLES  
(sternly)  
You'd better have a damn good  
explanation for this...

DAVID  
Well..."damn good's" a  
relative term...  
(easing him out  
the door)  
One more minute, okay?

...Charles looks confused as David CLOSES THE DOOR on him...  
and once again turns back to Stephanie...talking fast...

DAVID  
Look, all I'm saying is, there  
are nights...and there are nights...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

289

STEPHANIE

(unsure)

True...

DAVID

...but that one night in  
particular was...

...but he's interrupted by...A LARGE UNFAMILIAR WOMAN...coming  
through the door...

DAVID

(turns to woman,  
snapping)

What do you want?!

WOMAN

The paté...

DAVID

The "paté" is down the hall...  
and no flushing during the  
ceremony...

...the Woman looks confused as well...David PUSHING THE DOOR  
CLOSED on her...and turns back to Stephanie, continuing...

DAVID

I'm sure you feel the same way  
I do...

STEPHANIE

(near wit's end)

David...you're not being  
clear...

DAVID

I'm asking how we should deal  
with this...

STEPHANIE

I think we should go out and  
finish the wedding.

DAVID

(can't believe it)

How can you? Stephanie...  
the singing..."Tutti Frutti"  
...then afterwards...

ON STEPHANIE

290

...looking right at David as he hesitates...then, after a moment...as disingenuously as it can be asked...

STEPHANIE

Wait a minute...did we meet?

DAVID

291

...stares at her...as the question registers...then begins to sink in...his face frozen...and...

STEPHANIE

292

...searches his expression for an answer...then...

STEPHANIE

I'm sorry if I don't remember...  
I mean, I...must admit...I had  
some wild times back then...  
but that was a long time ago...

(wanting to  
forget)

A very long time ago...for me...

DAVID

293

...still stares...his frozen expression forming into an "Ohhh shit" kind of smile...she genuinely does not remember...and then...

MADDIE

294

...bursts through the door...

MADDIE

(furious)

David...

DAVID

(not looking  
at her)

We're coming!

...and he SHOVES THE DOOR CLOSED...then, back to Stephanie...

DAVID

(very awkward)

So you really don't...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

294

DAVID (cont'd)  
 (embarrassed;  
 quickly covering)  
 Is my face red or what? Funny  
 how the mind plays tricks on  
 you...I thought we did meet...  
 but it was such a long time  
 ago...  
 (forced laugh)  
 And now that I see you up  
 close...  
 (and then)  
 Probably wasn't the best time...  
 was it?

STEPHANIE

295

...looks at him...then, shaking her head...a slight smile  
 forming...

STEPHANIE  
 Charles said you were one of a  
 kind...

ANOTHER ANGLE

296

...as she turns for the door...

DAVID  
 (hint of panic)  
 Uh, Stephanie...!  
 (then, as she  
 turns back;  
 trying his  
 best)  
 Lemme get that door for you...

CUT TO:

THE ROOM OF PEOPLE

297

...all of them SPEAKING in hushed tones to one another...  
 waiting...and then...

THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN

298

...and out walks Stephanie with David behind...

DAVID  
 (to room)  
 Everything's under control,  
 she's fine...thank God I know the  
 Heimlich...

...and...

MADDIE

299

...just simmers...staring at David as her eyes follow them to...

THE ALTAR

300

...where Stephanie takes her place beside a perplexed Charles... and an angry Minister...and a somewhat hang-dog David...and then...

MINISTER

(to David, with  
venom)

Are we ready to continue?

...David MUMBLES something, head down...and then...

THE MINISTER

301

...opens his book...looks at Charles and Stephanie...then...

MINISTER

As Charles and Stephanie have consented together in holy wedlock, and have declared the same before God, and the presence of this company...I now pronounce you husband and wife.

(and then;  
pointedly)

Whom God has joined together...

ON DAVID

302

...knowing this final jab is meant for him...

MINISTER'S VOICE (O.C.)

...let no man put asunder...

BACK TO SCENE

303

...as...

MINISTER

(to Charles and  
Stephanie)

You may now kiss the bride...

...and the ORGAN MUSIC starts up...



DAVID 304  
...turns...gives a Curly-like little wave to...

MADDIE 305  
...who just glares back at him...

ANOTHER ANGLE 306  
...as Charles and Stephanie turn and face...

THE CROWD 307  
...as it stands and APPLAUDS...and as it does...

ON CHARLES AND DAVID 308  
...as Charles turns to him...and gives him a look...the look  
a million fathers have given a million sons...and then...

CHARLES  
I don't ever want to hear  
about it...

...and David looks the part of the sheepish son...as Charles  
turns away...and then...

CHARLES 309  
...turns back...and gives him a half-smile...a hint of  
acceptance...and...

DAVID 310  
...gives a half-smile back...surprised...but grateful...for the  
reaction...as we...

FREEZE FRAME

FADE OUT.

TAG

FADE IN:

ON MADDIE

311

...SITTING at her desk...READING a newspaper...turning a page...  
...skimming her eyes over it...then turning another, when a  
KNOCK on the door causes her to look up...and...

DAVID

312

...peeks his head in...bright and cheery...

DAVID

Morning...

MADDIE

313

...doesn't respond...looking back down at her paper...and...

ANOTHER ANGLE

314

...as David enters and approaches the desk...

DAVID

Don't worry, I understand...  
Having been in New York  
recently, you've no doubt  
forgotten some of the more  
common social graces. Maybe  
I can help...When I say,  
"Morning," the proper response  
is...

MADDIE

(not looking up)

Stuff it.

DAVID

Close enough...

(and then)

You left early last night.

MADDIE

Twenty dollars for a cab  
seemed easier than twenty  
years for manslaughter.

DAVID

Some partygoer giving you a  
hard time? Gotta expect  
that at weddings...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

314

MADDIE

(looks up)

You know what I'm talking about. What you did last night was...it was inconceivable.

(and then)

I just don't understand how your mind works...

DAVID

Me neither, but ya gotta love the results...

...she starts to react...then just shakes her head...and sighs...not as much angry as exasperated...

DAVID

Maddie, whaddaya want, it ended just fine...Dad's married, he and I are doing... okay...

(and then)

Everything's hunky dory...

MADDIE

315

...nods...clearly not a nod of agreement...she looks at him a moment...wanting to say something...then looks down at her paper...and...

MADDIE

(casually)

What about Stephanie? Everything hunky dory with her?

ANOTHER ANGLE

316

...as David reacts...a momentary discomfort...then, recovering, barely missing a beat...and laughing a bit too casually...

DAVID

That is some girl...wanna hear something amazing?

(shakes his head)

She claims she doesn't remember...

MADDIE

(with heightened interest)

What?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

316

DAVID

Yeah, she was good...real good...

(and then)

Didn't wash, though.

MADDIE

(stares at him;  
then, realizing)

She didn't remember? After all the...

(and then;  
with emphasis)

...Your "A-plus" night?

(suppresses a  
chuckle)

DAVID

(defensive)

Look, she's obviously just making it easier...

MADDIE

(enjoying it)

What a good sport...

DAVID

(squirming)

You know the bit...

(doing Stephanie)

..."It was late, dark bar, I was seeing double by then..."

MADDIE

("going along")

That old story...?

DAVID

(seeing she isn't  
buying it, then)

Okay. Fine. Don't believe it.

(and then)

If you'll excuse me, I have some things to do...

...and he starts out...Maddie still smiling at his discomfort  
...and then...

MADDIE

Oh...David...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

316

...he stops...

MADDIE

While you're lying...  
(straight forward)  
Why didn't you tell me you  
came back from Mexico after  
two days?

DAVID

317

...seems frozen...facing the door...not moving...he's been  
caught...and then, he gathers himself...and, finally, turns  
around and starts to answer...but before he can...

MADDIE

318

...looks right at him...

MADDIE

David...  
(a gentle plea)  
The truth.

ANOTHER ANGLE

319

...as David looks back at her...a moment as he assesses her  
gaze...then clearly decides it's time to come clean...and  
takes a step back in...

DAVID

I was having a lousy time...  
All set to go, got down  
there, tried to get into it...  
but it just wasn't happening  
...I don't know why...for some  
reason, I just wasn't enjoying  
being away...  
(and then)  
Little embarrassed to admit  
it, I guess...

...he looks over at her...she seems surprised...and then,  
she smiles a little...

MADDIE

Thank you.

...David shrugs slightly...a bit awkwardly...and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

319

DAVID

Sorry...

...Maddie shrugs it off as well...and David half-turns toward the door, starting to leave...and then...

MADDIE

320

...looks down at her desk...timidly...

MADDIE

(under her  
breath)

I didn't enjoy mine, either...

DAVID

321

...TURNS back...not hearing...

DAVID

What?

MADDIE

322

...building confidence...

MADDIE

I didn't enjoy mine, either.  
I'm not sure why...

ANOTHER ANGLE

323

...there's an awkward silence between the two of them...they avoid each other's looks...until...

MADDIE

(trying to be  
casual)

Maybe it's like you said...

(and then)

...maybe I missed...this  
place...

DAVID

(trying to be  
just as casual)

Maybe...

ON MADDIE

324

...looking at him...she wants to say something...and then,

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

324

finally...she does...

MADDIE  
(tentative)  
...Maybe I missed you...

DAVID

325

...looks back at her...surprised...then smiles, pleased...  
and finally...

DAVID  
Maybe I missed you, too...

BACK ON MADDIE

326

...as she smiles back...just as pleased...and we...

FREEZE FRAME.

THE END