

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

"Our Father, Who's Not In Heaven"

written by

Charles H. Eglee

all rights reserved
PICTUREMAKER PRODUCTIONS, INC.
in association with
ABC CIRCLE FILMS

FIRST DRAFT
August 15, 1986

The writing credits may not be final and should not be used for publicity or advertising purposes without first checking with the Contract Department or Business Affairs.

No portion of this script may be performed or reproduced by any means, or quoted or published in any medium without prior written consent.

No one is authorized to sell, transfer or dispose of the script.

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

1

...on a man's hand making the sign of the cross in the air...
and then, the wrist rolls toward camera revealing the face
of a watch...

ANOTHER ANGLE

2

...on a priest, FATHER JOSEPH McCABE looking at the watch.
Thirty-five, handsome, bespectacled, he stands next to a
hospital bed where MRS. GAWELKO, a grey haired woman in her
sixties lies propped up on pillows, her arm in a sling...

MRS. GAWELKO

Think they oughta keep me
here for a few more days.
You know...for observation.

...Father McCabe shifts impatiently...

McCABE

The doctor says it's only a
sprain.

...Mrs. Gawelko winces as she feels her arm...

MRS. GAWELKO

Feels broken to me...
(extends it to
him)
What do you think?

ON McCabe as he STANDS...

3

McCABE

Believe me, Mrs. Gawelko,
you'll be a lot more
comfortable in your own bed.

...Mrs. Gawelko looks up, alarmed...

MRS. GAWELKO

You're not leaving...

McCABE

Afraid I have to...I'm due
back at the church.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

3

MRS. GAWELKO

But...

...McCabe puts a placating hand on her shoulder...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

3

McCABE

Father Estevez will look in
on you tomorrow...at home.

...Mrs. Gawelko looks up at him...

MRS. GAWELKO

Father?...Before you go...will
you pray with me?

...McCabe...sighs...duty bound...

McCABE

Of course...

...they each close their eyes and fold their hands...

MRS. GAWELKO

Glory be to the Father...

MRS. GAWELKO

...and to the Son and the
Holy Spirit. As it was
in the beginning, is
now and ever shall be
World without end..

McCABE

...and to the Son and the
Holy Spirit. As it was
in the beginning, is
now and ever shall be
World without end..

McCABE (cont'd)

Amen.

...as the priest starts to turn toward the door once again,
Mrs. Gawelko continues on, freezing him in his place...

MRS. GAWELKO (con't)

God bless my mother and father
...may they rest in peace...
God bless my boys...Anthony
and Michael...

ON McCABE

4

...impatient...

MRS. GAWELKO (cont'd)

And may He give my daughter,
Marcia the strength to go out
and find a husband...before

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

4

MRS. GAWELKO (cont'd)
I'm too old to dance at the
wedding...

ON McCABE

5

...looking at his watch...he's elsewhere...

MRS. GAWELKO (cont'd)
And God bless the Lakers...

...and then...

McCABE
Is that it Mrs. Gawelko?

MRS. GAWELKO
Oh...and God bless you, Father
McCabe.

McCABE
(offers a
tight
smile)
Thank you...Have a good day,
Mrs. Gawelko.

...McCabe turns and hurries into the hallway...

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

6

...as McCabe checks his watch and bolts down the corridor...

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET - DAY

7

...Father McCabe hurries along the sidewalk past a pawn
shop, bailbondsman and assorted run down business
establishments...

ON McCABE

8

...as he rounds a corner, past a group of rough looking
home boys who lounge on the street of a graffiti marred
apartment building....

ANOTHER ANGLE

9

...as he crosses the street and mounts the steps of St.
Ursula, a once grand, now faded, inner city parish. He
takes the stairs two at a time and enters...

INT. CHURCH - DAY

10

...McCabe's footsteps echo throughout the nave, as he hurries down the aisle past rows of pews, nearly empty except for a handful of old women...

ANOTHER ANGLE

11

...as he crosses to the confessional at the far side of the nave where a few penitents wait to receive absolution... McCabe calls to an OLDER PRIEST who is about to enter the confessional...

McCABE

Father Estevez...

(and then)

Sorry...got held up at the hospital.

ESTEVEZ

Mrs. Gawelko?

...McCabe nods...

ESTEVEZ (cont'd)

Figured as much. I'll pinch hit for you today.

...Estevez turns to enter confessional, but McCabe follows...

McCABE

I don't want to put you to any trouble.

ESTEVEZ

No trouble at all. Take the afternoon off...just be back for vespers.

McCABE

You're very kind...but I was looking forward to hearing confession.

ESTEVEZ

Don't polish my apple Father. May be the Lord's work, but it's also a pain in the clerical collar...Now scaddadle.

...as McCabe steps in front of Father Estevez, blocking his path...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

11

MCCABE
(firmly)
Father Estevez...I want to
hear confession today...
(and then)
Please.

...Estevez scrutinizes the young priest...and then...

ESTEVEZ
You worry me sometimes,
Father McCabe.

...Estevez turns and walks off shaking his head as McCabe
enters confessional...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CONFESSIONAL - DAY

12

...McCabe sits, hands outstretched, eyes closed...

MCCABE
...May God give you pardon and
peace and I absolve you from
sin...

...an old man's voice interrupts him from the other side
of the curtain which separates them...

OLD MAN (O.C.)
Excuse me Father...Did I mention
the impure thoughts?

MCCABE
Yes you did.

OLD MAN (O.C.)
And taking the Lord's name in
vain?

MCCABE
That too.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

12

OLD MAN (O.C.)
Just wanted to make sure I
didn't leave anything out...

MCCABE
...In the name of the...
(makes the
sign of the
cross)
Father, Son and the Holy
Spirit. Amen.

OLD MAN (O.C.)
Thank you Father.

...the door creaks open on the other side of the curtain
and we hear the old man shuffle out...

ANGLE

13

...on the priest as he settles against the wall of the
confessional, plainly bored...and then, he looks at his
watch, his face registers disappointment...he reaches into
his pocket and pulls out a pack of cigarettes, shakes one
out...and then he hears something...distant footsteps
echoing through the church...he looks up, suddenly attentive
as the footsteps approach...he puts the cigarettes back in his
pocket...

CLOSE ON

THE PRIEST

14

...as an expectant smile plays around the corners of his
mouth...the click of high heels against the stone floor
grows louder...clearly, this is a familiar sound to him...
the door to the confessional creaks open and someone enters...

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)
It's me, Father.

...the words come out slowly in heavily accented English...
recognition registers on his face...this is what he's been
waiting for...McCabe straightens, he leans forward...renewed...

MCCABE
Welcome...

...we're not sure if this is part of the sacrament or a
personal greeting...and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

14

McCABE

...May the Lord be in your heart and on your lips to worthily confess your sins.

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

I'm sorry Father...for not coming to confession last week...

(and then)

Did you miss me?

CLOSE ON

15

...FATHER McCABE...

McCABE

Yes...

(and then

as he

smiles)

Yes, I did miss you.

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

I went to the park instead... stayed 'til it was almost dark...watching the swans swim in circles around the fountain.

ANOTHER ANGLE

ON McCABE

16

...as he settles back, caught up in the sound of this woman's voice...

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

You're not supposed to feed them but I do anyway...they recognize me. And they make a terrible racket if I don't bring them something.

...and then...

McCABE

The sisters asked me to thank you for the money you sent them. They're putting it toward a new car for the school.

(and then)

You're very kind.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

16

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)
(saddened;
melancholy)
It's not my money. It's his.
Everything is his.
(and then;
darkly)
Including me I suppose.

McCABE
Still, the generosity is
yours.

...after a long silence...the woman begins speaking again...

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)
Father...do you ever think
about heaven?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

16

McCABE

Sometimes.

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

What's it like?

...he considers his thoughts...and then...

McCABE

There's no sorrow...no
suffering...no tears.

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

But what does it look like?

McCABE

Pick the most wonderful place
you can imagine and multiply
it...a million times.

...and then...

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

Then heaven's a summer afternoon...
after the heat of the day has
passed. And a breeze is blowing
across a lake...filled with
magnificent white swans. And
when the swans flap their wings
...they turn into angels......and then...the woman begins speaking again...this time
in Spanish, her words translated in subtitles...

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

(in Spanish)

Sometimes I think it would be
easier to die.

McCABE

(in Spanish)

One day all of us will join
the Lord, but He needs us here
to carry out His work.

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

(in Spanish)

No...He doesn't need me...God
has turned his back on me.

McCABE

(in Spanish)

That's not so.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

16

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)
(in Spanish)
Then why doesn't HE hear my
prayers?

...and then...

MCCABE
(in Spanish)
He's beaten you again, hasn't
he?

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)
(in Spanish)
Last night when I got home...
he said I'd been with another
man, it wasn't true of course,
but his suspicions never
are...only excuses to hurt me.

MCCABE
(in Spanish)
Would you like me to talk to
him?

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)
(in Spanish)
No...if he found I'd spoken to
anyone...I'm afraid what he
might do to me.
(and then)
Father, have you ever been in
love?

MCCABE
(in Spanish)
Once a long time ago.

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)
(in Spanish)
I could tell. I hear it in
your voice.
(in English)
I suppose I loved him once. I
don't remember.
(and then)
With each blow he diminishes
himself as a man...and I feel
sorry for him. But that
doesn't take away the hatred.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

16

McCABE
(in English)
You must ask the Lord for the
strength to forgive this man.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

16

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

(in English)

I've prayed. But I can't
anymore. Nothing changes...
nothing helps.

(desperate)

I have to get away from him
Father...

(and then;

sadly)

...but there's nowhere to go.

McCABE

Pray with me now.

...McCabe extends his hand, almost as if he's reaching out
to touch her through the curtain...

McCABE (cont'd)

God the Father of mercies
through the death and
resurrection of His Son has
reconciled the world to...

...McCabe is interrupted by the sound of the door creaking
open, he looks up...

YOUNG WOMAN (O.C.)

Forgive me Father...but there's
nothing you can do for me...

(and then)

Goodbye.

...the Priest listens as she exits the confessional...

ON THE PRIEST

17

...a long moment...melancholy...as the footsteps recede...

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - DAY 18
...on a familiar pair of legs striding out of the elevator...
ANGLE ON 19
...MADDIE reading newspaper as she continues down hall...
CUT TO:
INT. BLUE MOON AGENCY - DAY 20
...Maddie enters, still looking at paper as a phone rings
insistently in the background...
ANGLE ON 21
...Maddie heading toward her office...perfunctorily...
MADDIE
Good Morning, Miss Di --
...she looks up from her paper at an...
EMPTY OFFICE 22
...the lights are on but nobody's home. Maddie looks around
quizzically, then crosses to ringing phone...
ANOTHER ANGLE ON 33
...Maddie as she picks up phone...
MADDIE
Good Morning...Blue Moon
Detective Agency...
...and then...as she looks around, trying to figure out where
everyone is she reacts to what she hears through the receiver
with a grimace...
MADDIE (cont'd)
Oh really?...well, I'm nude too.
...and she slams down the receiver...a growl...and then...she
looks up from the sound of muffled laughter coming from
David's office. Stay with Maddie as she crosses to the
door, then opens it...we hear a burst of laugh track
laughter...
CUT TO:

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE - DAY

34

...the room is dark...lights out, blinds drawn. Maddie threads her way through the knot of employees who are looking up at...

DAVID

35

...standing on desk top wearing shades...three day growth... He is illuminated by a single track light that throws a spotlight around him. He holds a stapler to his mouth as if it were a microphone...

DAVID

True story...true story...the nymphomaniac walks up to the golf pro and says --

ON MADDIE

36

...steaming...

MADDIE

Mr. Addison, I want to see you in my office immediately --

...David looks out into the audience, shielding his eyes against the light..

DAVID

Thanks anyway lady, but tennis is my game.

...rim shot...canned laughter...

DAVID (cont'd)

Do we have anybody here from New Jersey?

...a smattering of applause...

DAVID (cont'd)

...Too bad...But seriously folks...this young lady comes up to the golf pro and says --

...suddenly the lights come on...

MADDIE

37

...standing at the light switch, unamused...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

37

MADDIE

Okay...everyone back to work...
Now!

...as the employees shuffle out of the office...

DAVID

Like to thank you all for
coming...you've been a great
crowd...and if you're out
tonight...on your bike...
wear white.

...Maddie crosses to David, who remains standing on his desk...

MADDIE

David, what's this all about?

DAVID

It's about time, it's about
space. It's about two people
in a strange new place?

MADDIE

I'm trying to run a business.

DAVID

And I was trying to tell a
joke...You stepped on my
punchline.

MADDIE

Will you get down.

ANGLE ON

38

...Maddie as David hops down into frame next to her...and
then he follows her as she crosses to window...

DAVID

Maddie...the most
important part of
comedy is...

MADDIE

Timing.

...and then...Maddie snaps open the blinds...

DAVID (cont'd)

Old joke.

MADDIE

David, this is not a nightclub.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

38

DAVID

You're telling me...last time
I played a room this cold,
everyone in the audience
was wearing toe tags.

...a rim shot...and then...Maddie looks around, confused...

MADDIE

What was that?

DAVID

Sound effects.

(and then)

...Come on, you're not really
mad are you?

...but she is...

DAVID (cont'd)

I was entertaining the troops.

MADDIE

You call that entertainment?

DAVID

Okay, so I'm not Sonny and
Cher...but those kids sit
there in that outer office
giving a hundred and ten
percent...for who?...for us.
The least we can do is hand
'em a couple of yuks now and
then.

MADDIE

Have you heard the one about
the unemployed private invest-
igator?

DAVID

You sure got up on the wrong
side of the crypt this morning.

MADDIE

This office is not the place
for that bathroom wall masque-
rading as your sense of humor.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

38

DAVID

(as he
settles
against desk)

Here I sit broken hearted...
What is wrong with a little
ribaldry around the water
cooler?

MADDIE

If you want to be tasteless
...do it on your own time...
and out of my earshot.

DAVID

Well Miss Manners...do I
detect a note of prudishness
here?

MADDIE

I am not a prude...I enjoy
a good laugh as much as
anyone. But when was the
last time you told a joke
that didn't make fun of
someone's race, color,
creed or sexual orientation?

DAVID

What about toilet habits?

MADDIE

Anyone can sling sludge. But
whatever happened to wit,
David?

DAVID

(pacing)

You know what I find amusing...
apart from words that end in
K and anything involving
sheep?...your attitude.

MADDIE

My attitude?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

38

DAVID

Your attitude...
(and then)
Who elected you imperial
arbiter of taste?

MADDIE

I'm sick of space shuttle
jokes...and I'm sick of jokes
about starving people in
Africa...and I'm sick of jokes
about golf pros and nympho-
maniacs.

DAVID

Okay...what did the nympho-
maniac say to the shoe
salesman?

MADDIE

You're not listening to
me David.

DAVID

Maddie...we're flying coach on
a ball of rock in a hostile
vaccuum...the best we can
hope for is to die in one piece.
(and then)
We laugh at things that make
us afraid or uncomfortable.

MADDIE

Yeah...well, maybe I don't see
the humor in other people's
misfortunes.

...Maddie starts for the door...and then...

DAVID

So what do you want me to do
...tell elephant jokes?

MADDIE

(turns)

I like elephant jokes.

DAVID

Real knee slappers...right
up there with knock knock
humor.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

38

...and then...a knock knock at the door...

DAVID
Who's there?

MADDIE
Who's there?

...door opens and MISS DIPESTO sticks her head in...

DIPESTO
There's a gentleman to see you.

MADDIE
We'll be with him in a moment.

...Dipesto withdraws...

DAVID
Sure would be a bleak world
if everyone was as humorless
as you can be.

MADDIE
I don't happen to enjoy bobbing
for road apples in a cesspool...
and neither would you if you
were any kind of gentleman.

DAVID
You're suggesting I'm not a
gentleman?

MADDIE
You have a remarkable grasp
of the obvious.

...David crosses to door, opens it...

DAVID
Miss Dipesto...would you ask
the gentleman to step into
my office?

ON MADDIE AND DAVID

39

MADDIE
What are you doing?

DAVID
I'm going to find out what
a real gentleman finds amusing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

39

MADDIE

You are not telling one
of your filthy stories
to a potential client.

ON DAVID

40

...turning back to Maddie...

DAVID

Why, 'cause he might
split a gut laughing?

...Maddie looks up as someone enters the room..David follows
her eyes and spins to greet the visitor...

DAVID

What'd the nymph --

ANGLE ON

41

...David, cut short...transfixed by what he sees...

ANGLE ON

42

...FATHER McCABE...

...David's off guard, Maddie savors the moment...and then...

MADDIE

Go on David...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

42

DAVID
 (clears
 throat)
 Yeah...um...Father...How
 many elephants can you fit
 in a Volkswagon?

ON DAVID

43

...chagrined...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MADDIE'S OFFICE - DAY

44

CLOSE ON

...McCabe's hands, fidgeting with crucifix...

McCABE (O.C.)
 My mother believed that every
 good Irish family should give
 one son to the police depart-
 ment, another to the priest-
 hood.

...on McCabe, seated in front of Maddie's desk...

McCABE (cont'd)
 So you see, my calling was pre-
 ordained...
 (smiles,
 and then;)
 if you will.

ANGLE

45

...to include Maddie, seated in chair behind her desk...David
 in front, leaning against it...

McCABE (cont'd)
 But I wasn't going to live
 my life for my mother's
 dreams...I had to find that
 conviction in my own heart.
 (after a
 pause;
 and then;)
 Father Anthony was the one who
 convinced me. I remember the night.
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

45

McCABE (cont'd)

A couple of rival gangs were getting ready to rumble in an empty lot behind our tenement...it was humid... nobody could sleep...who knows what the fight was about, but those kids were loaded for bear...knives, chains...zip guns...

ON MADDIE

46

...a look to David...and then...

McCABE (cont'd)

My brothers and I were watching from our room upstairs... waiting for someone to make a move...then Father Anthony came down the alley. God... he was old...seventy-five if he was a day...Told everyone to go home.

(and then)

Somebody threw a bottle... caught him in the forehead... He bled like Christ...but he stood his ground. He didn't say a word...didn't have to...just stood there... until one by one the kids dropped their weapons and left.

...a long pause...and then...

McCABE (cont'd)

That's when I knew I wanted to be a priest.

...David straightens and crosses behind McCabe...

DAVID

How can we help you Father?

ANGLE ON

47

...McCabe who hesitates...what he is about to say is painful... and then...looking up almost helplessly to Maddie and David... he confesses...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

47

McCABE

I don't know where to begin...
You see...

(and then)

I've lost my faith.

ON MADDIE AND DAVID

48

...exchanging a look...and then...

MADDIE

I'm not sure we're the ones to
help you find it.

McCABE

No...that's not what I want you
to do...I want you to find a
woman.

MADDIE

(surprised)

A woman?

ON DAVID

49

...his brow knit in consternation...

DAVID

I'm afraid I don't follow.

...and then...

McCABE

I can't tell you very much
about her. I've only spoken to
her in confession...So I'm
bound by holy sacrament
not to reveal anything she's
told me.

(and then;)

But I can tell you one thing.

(hesitantly;
the words seem
unfamiliar)

I love her very much.

ANGLE TO INCLUDE MADDIE AND DAVID

50

...David shoots Maddie a stunned look...and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

50

DAVID

I don't know how to break this to you Father, but I think you missed Sunday school when the nuns explained celibacy.

McCABE

I've spoken to my superiors... a letter is on it's way from Rome relieving me of my duties.

ON DAVID

51

...surprised...and then...

DAVID

Just like that...flip, flop and fly...

McCABE

Leaving the priesthood is the hardest decision I've ever had to make...and the most painful ...I could stay, but my life would be a lie.

(and then)

I have to follow my heart.

...and then...after a silence...Maddie reaches for a pen and a piece of paper on her desk top...

MADDIE

Can you give us a description of this woman?

McCABE

She's very beautiful...

MADDIE

Can you be more specific? Height, weight, hair color?

McCABE

I don't know...I've never seen her...I don't even know her name.

DAVID

Then how do you know she's beautiful?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

51

McCABE

Has nothing to do with bone structure Mr. Addison. I've seen the beauty of her soul ...and realized the emptiness of my own.

DAVID

I don't understand. You're ready to give up your life's calling for a woman you've never seen?

McCABE

I've never seen God...but I love him.

...after a pause...Maddie puts down the pen and gets up from behind the desk...

MADDIE

Father McCabe, even if we wanted to take this case, there's one big problem.

McCABE

I can pay you as soon as I get some sort of job.

MADDIE

Money's not the issue... You can't expect us to look for someone without any clues. We need more to go on.

DAVID

How old is this woman?

McCABE

(shakes his head... and then)

I really couldn't say... Twenty-five, thirty-five, maybe older.

MADDIE

Do you know where she works?

DAVID

What kind of car she drives, favorite Stones album, anything?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

51

McCABE

Her voice. I guess that's
what first drew me to her...
She speaks with an accent.

DAVID

(grasping at
straws)

What kind of accent?

McCABE

Argentinian, I think.

(and then)

I can always tell when she
arrives at church. Her high
heels echo through the whole
nave. Drives Father Estevez
crazy.

DAVID

High heels...Narrows it down
to ninety percent of the
women in Los Angeles and a few
guys on Hollywood Boulevard.

McCABE

She's very generous...she
gives quite a bit of money
to our parish. A few hundred
dollars a week.

DAVID

Can't be hurting for do re mi.

MADDIE

What about the checks?...name,
address?

McCABE

She leaves cash.

DAVID

(to Maddie)

Doesn't need the write off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

51

MADDIE

Think. Is there anything else?
Anything at all?

McCABE

Only that she spends a lot of
time in the park...

DAVID

What park?

...the priest shrugs...

McCABE

She likes to watch the swans.

...David paces...clearly frustrated...and then...

DAVID

...Couldn't you talk to this
woman next time she comes
to your church?

McCABE

I don't think she's coming
back...

(and then)

She may be in some sort of
trouble.

MADDIE

What kind of trouble?

McCABE

(retreating)

I'm afraid I've said too
much already...

(and then)

Will you help me?

ANGLE ON McCABE

52

...as he looks to MADDIE and DAVID imploringly...

MADDIE

You love her that much?

McCABE

This is what I want...I've
never been more certain of
anything in my life.

...and then...Maddie and David exchange a look...David is
clearly troubled...and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

52

MADDIE
We'll do our best.

MCCABE
God bless you both.

ON MADDIE AND DAVID

53

CUT TO:

EXT. BMW - DAY

54

ESTABLISHING

INT. BMW - DAY

55

...Maddie at the wheel...David looking straight ahead...
silence...Maddie looks over at him...and then...

MADDIE
It's alright David, I understand.

DAVID
Understand what?

MADDIE
Why you're in a bad mood.

DAVID
I'm not in a bad mood.

MADDIE
The vein in the middle of your
forehead only pulsates when
you're in a bad mood...
(looking over
at him;
and then)
...and you're in a bad mood.

DAVID
(more insistant)
I'm not in a bad mood.

MADDIE
You're right David. You're
in a foul mood...an awful
mood...a black mood with
horns on it...and I know why.

ANGLE TO INCLUDE MADDIE AND DAVID

56

...as David settles back into his seat, annoyed...

MADDIE

You're afraid we're on a wild
goose chase...

...Maddie looks over at David for a reaction, there is none...
and then...

MADDIE (cont'd)

And since our client doesn't
have any money...and we may
never see a dime.

DAVID

I'm not worried.

MADDIE

Good, because neither am I.
One way or another...Father
McCabe will come through.

...and then...

MADDIE (cont'd)

I mean, if you can't count on
a priest...what's the world
coming to.

DAVID

(sits up)

That's why I'm in a bad
mood.

MADDIE

(vindicated)

Ah ha...

DAVID

Maddie, do you know what
we're doing?

MADDIE

(looking down
at speed-
ometer)

About seventy-five.

...as she steps on brake...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

56

DAVID

We're encouraging a priest to break his vows.

MADDIE

We're helping someone find the woman of his dreams.

DAVID

We're chasing a fantasy. He's never even met the woman.

MADDIE

Which makes it all the more romantic.

DAVID

I think it's a little rash... And chasing women you don't know is a good way to get a big rash.

MADDIE

We're talking about a man who's willing to sacrifice everything...for the sound of her voice.

(and then)

He doesn't care whether she's a blonde, brunette, or if she's got a good body...

DAVID

Yeah, well I don't want to be around when the Big Guy in the Sky finds out we helped one of his footsoldiers go AWOL...We're leading a man into temptation...when we oughta be delivering him from evil.

MADDIE

Know what I don't understand? ...How you can go to the mat for the inalienable right to be revolting...then...wag your finger at Father McCabe...like some disapproving puritan.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

56

DAVID

He's a priest Maddie. He's taken vows of chastity and poverty... devoted his life to reflection and prayer. People look to him for spiritual guidance.

MADDIE

And he puts his pants on one leg at time. David, he's entitled to change his mind.

DAVID

Fine, but what about professional ethics? There're certain relationships where romantic advances just aren't appropriate...doctor-patient milkman-housewife, cellmates...

MADDIE

But this is true love, David.

DAVID

I know a testosterone storm when I see one brewing.

MADDIE

Why can't you accept the fact that Father McCabe might... just might...really love this woman?

DAVID

Okay, suppose you're right... still doesn't mean he should ride off into the sunset with the bimbo.

MADDIE

Why not?

DAVID

Look what he's giving up. A career...his identity...not to mention a complete wardrobe.

(shakes his head)

If you ask me...it's not worth the sacrifice.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

56

MADDIE

The King of England thought so
 ...abdicated the throne... dis-
 owned by his family...banished
 to France...why?...

(then;
 dreamily)

All for the love of Mrs. Wallis
 Simpson.

DAVID

He was no fool. I'd take
 Lafitte Rothchild over
 warm beer any day.

MADDIE

You really wouldn't make the
 grand gesture, the supreme
 sacrifice...not even for the
 woman of your dreams?

...and then...

CLOSE ON

DAVID

...serious...

57

DAVID

The woman of my dreams wouldn't
 ask me to.

ON MADDIE

58

...silence...the disappointment plainly evident...
 and then...

MADDIE

Listen, if you don't want
 to take the case --

DAVID

I'm not saying we shouldn't
 take the case...it's just
 ...I can't help feeling ookey.

MADDIE

Ookey?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

58

DAVID

You know, when something's
not wrong, but not right
either...like sleeping in
sheets that haven't been
washed in a couple of weeks...

MADDIE

David, I don't want you feeling
ookey.

DAVID

It's okay, really. Besides, if
we don't help Father, soon to be
Mr., McCabe...somebody else will.

...a long pause...and then...

MADDIE

You're sure you want to
do this?

DAVID

(reluctantly)

Yeah.

(and then)

Just don't blame me if
we're struck by lightning.

CUT TO BLACK

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. PARK - DAY

59

CLOSE ON

...a pair of stunning legs WALKING past in high heels...

MUSIC

*I'm a girl watcher
I'm a girl watcher
Watching girls go by
Oh my my...*

PICK UP AND FOLLOW

60

...another pair of legs WALKING past in the opposite direction...

MUSIC (cont'd)

*I'm a girl watcher
I'm a girl watcher
Here comes one now...*

ANOTHER ANGLE

61

...as a COUPLE of SECRETARIES WALK past in airy summer dresses...

MUSIC (cont'd)

*I was just a boy
When I threw away my toys
I found a new pastime well one...*

PICK UP AND STAY WITH

62

...a FEMALE JOGGER who RUNS past...and then...the CAMERA suddenly JERKS back to find the TWO GIRLS as ONE OF THEM LIFTS her SKIRT a bit to EXAMINE a run in her hose...

MUSIC (cont'd)

*...When I detect
Members of the other sex
I play the game I do so well on...*

CLOSE ANGLE ON

DAVID

63

...LOOKING through binoculars...we've been enjoying his P.O.V....

MUSIC (cont'd)

*I'm a girl watcher
I'm a girl watcher*

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

63

...as David LOWERS the binoculars, his sunglasses SLIP DOWN from his forehead onto his nose and the MUSIC CUTS OUT...

DAVID

Watching girls go by...
oooh my my...

...PULL BACK TO REVEAL David SITTING next to Maddie in...a PADDLE BOAT FLOATING a few yards from shore in a small pond...

MADDIE

Maybe this isn't the right park.

DAVID

Only two parks in the city with swans...and the coyotes ate the other pair. This has gotta be where she hangs out.

MADDIE

Aren't you curious?

DAVID

Stayed awake all last night thinking about it.

MADDIE

And...

DAVID

I decided you've got way too much class to waste your life in pantyhose. Maddie, you were made to wear garter belts.

MADDIE

I'm talking about the woman we're looking for. What she's like...To be able to turn someone's life inside out with only the sound of your voice.

DAVID

Maybe she works for a fantasy hotline...Maybe we can get her to replace Dipesto on phones...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

63

MADDIE

Well, you seem to have overcome your reservations about taking this case.

DAVID

Sometimes you gotta take the bull by the horns, bite the bullet, throw yourself into the breach...Right full rudder.

...David and Maddie PEDDLE the BOAT as David SCANS the shoreline with the binoculars...

DAVID (cont'd)

No...definitely not a catholic girl. Wrong medallion between her...around her neck...

...and then, Maddie HEAVES a frustrated SIGH...

MADDIE

Let's face it...we're looking for a needle in a haystack.

DAVID

No...we're looking for a woman in a haystack...with high heels, a spanish accent, and a bag of breadcrumbs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

63

MADDIE

(exasperated)

Some clues.

DAVID

Okay...we're rebels without
a clue...but I'm a girl
watcher...

...as he CALLS OUT to a WOMAN on shore who is TOSSING POPCORN
to a PAIR OF SWANS...

DAVID (cont'd)

Ahoy there matie...how many
bells is it?

WOMAN

(in a southern
accent)

'Xcuse me?

DAVID

The time?

WOMAN

Ten after...but my watch may be
a little fast.

DAVID

(to Maddie)

Right time...wrong accent.

...Maddie LOOKS over at a COUPLE who WALK past arm in arm...

MADDIE

David, have you ever been so
close to someone...you didn't
even have to talk...you knew
what the other person was
thinking.

...David follows Maddie's eyeline...

DAVID'S POV

64

...as the couple KISS...

DAVID

They keep doing that with
their tongues they'll be
able to finish each other's
sentences.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

64

MADDIE

(ignores him;
and continues)

...Just when you think you've
figured out where you stand
in that person's life...how
important you are to them
...even if a lot of it's
unspoken...

DAVID

They say or do something that
changes everything...

...Maddie TURNS...LOOKS at him...surprised...

MADDIE

Right.

DAVID

I'm glad we're having this
conversation.

MADDIE

You are?

DAVID

Because I've been thinking
about the same thing.

MADDIE

(expectant)

You have?

DAVID

...The expression on this woman's
face when her parish priest
shows up in a Hawaiian sport
shirt...ready to twist and
shout...I mean, is that gonna
to rattle a few beads or what?

...but Maddie isn't listening...she's distracted by something
she SEES...

DAVID (cont'd)

Course we've gotta find her
first.

HER POV

65

...across the pond...through the fountain...a WOMAN, striking, dark haired, wearing sunglasses and tailored European clothes... TURNS AWAY from the water and WALKS toward a waiting limousine...

MADDIE

David...

(and then)

...if you could afford to give a few hundred dollars a week to a church...you could probably afford a limousine, right?

...David LOOKS over toward the woman...and then...

DAVID

Stroke...

...as Maddie and David PEDDLE furiously toward the shore...

DAVID (cont'd)

Stroke...stroke...

...they reach the shore, then SCRAMBLE out of the paddle boat...

ANGLE

66

...as Maddie and David HEAD for the BMW as the limo DRIVES OFF... ..Maddie GETS behind the wheel and David GOES around to the passenger side...

ON THE BMW

67

...as it SCREECHES away from the curb, David WRESTLING to YANK the door CLOSED...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ENTRANCE TO RACETRACK - DAY

68

...limousine PULLS into the entrance...the BMW follows CLOSE behind...

ANOTHER ANGLE

69

...as the limo DRIVES into the parking lot past sign reading "VIP Parking - Passholders Only"...the ATTENDENT WAVES the limo past, then tries to block the BMW...

ANGLE ON

MADDIE

70

...as she GUNS THE ENGINE and the attendant DIVES OUT of the way...

ANOTHER ANGLE

71

...as the limousine PULLS UP to the track entrance and the woman EXITS...

ANOTHER ANGLE

72

...as the BMW PULLS UP behind limo...Maddie and David EXIT and are descended upon by an irate parking attendant...

ATTENDENT

Hey lady, sign says no parking
...move it.

...David PULLS his wallet from his pocket and SHOVES a bill at the attendant...

ATTENDENT (cont'd)

(icily)

Who are you, Santa Claus?
Move the car.

ON DAVID

73

...as he EXTENDS the bill...

DAVID

You never heard of free
enterprise?

...and then...LOOKING over his shoulder as the woman STEPS onto an escalator...

ATTENDENT (cont'd)

I don't want your money...I
want the car outa here. Now.

ANGLE TO INCLUDE

MADDIE

74

MADDIE

Go on. I'll catch up.

...as David SETS OFF, Maddie GETS BACK into car...

ON DAVID

75

...as he STEPS onto the escalator and MAKES HIS WAY through the knot of people...

ON THE WOMAN

76

...as she STEPS off the escalator and ENTERS the turf club...

PICK UP DAVID

77

...as he REACHES the top and HEADS for the turf club entrance...

CUT TO:

INT. TURF CLUB - DAY

78

...as David ENTERS, the maitre d' approaches...

DAVID

I think I see my party.

...he INDICATES the woman who is in a booth across the room... he CROSSES to her...

ANGLE ON

THE WOMAN

79

...LOOKING OUT the window across the racetrack...

ANGLE TO INCLUDE

DAVID

80

DAVID

Excuse me...my name is David Addison.

...the woman LOOKS up at David, apprehensive...she LOOKS around the room nervously...

WOMAN (IN A HEAVY SPANISH ACCENT)

What do you want?

...David knows he's found her...but he registers surprise... she's not what he expected...too much make-up covering the fatigue in her face...a party girl who's partied out...

DAVID

Mind if I sit?

WOMAN

I'm expecting someone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

80

DAVID

I won't take much of your
time. I'm a private
investigator.

MAN'S VOICE (O.C.)

(interrupts)

The lady doesn't want to be
disturbed.

...David TURNS and LOOKS up at STEVEN GANT, forty-two, drawn,
humorless...he's accompanied by an imposing form named BRUNO
who is dressed in a chauffer's uniform...and then David TURNS
back to the woman...

DAVID

Two minutes is all I ask.

GANT

Bruno...show the gentleman
out, won't you?

...a beefy paw SETTLES on David's shoulder...David REGARDS it
...and then...

DAVID

Yeah, well, kids...this has
been swell...

...the hand SLIPS under David's arm as Bruno navigates
him TOWARD the door...

DAVID (cont'd)

You'll come over to my place
next time...

ANGLE

81

...as Bruno HUSTLES David out the door...PICK UP Maddie who
ENTERS...

DAVID (cont'd)

...spin some disks...play a
little twister...

...Maddie is about to intervene when David silences her with
a QUICK LOOK then NODS TOWARD the table where Gant and the
woman sit...

STAY WITH

MADDIE

82

...as David and Bruno EXIT...the maitre d' APPROACHES and LEADS her to a booth next to Gant and the woman...

ANGLE ON

MADDIE

83

...as she SITS...able to HEAR the conversation in the next booth...

GANT (O.C.)

(angry)

A detective. What the hell did he want with you?

WOMAN (O.C.)

I don't know.

GANT (O.C.)

You don't talk to anyone, understand?

WOMAN (O.C.)

I didn't --

GANT (O.C.)

Shut up...and go fix your face...

(and then)

...Angel...cross me... and it'll take more than mascara to make you look good.

ANOTHER ANGLE

84

...as the woman PASSES Maddie's booth...in the background, the track announcer is CALLING a race...Maddie STANDS, LOOKS over at Gant who SMILES at her...Maddie doesn't return the smile and HEADS off to the ladies room...

CUT TO:

INT. LADIES ROOM - DAY

85

...Maddie ENTERS...CROSSES to the mirror...and PRIMPS...then LOOKS around at the SOUND OF SNIFFLING coming from inside one of the stalls...almost as if someone were crying...and then... the door OPENS and the woman EMERGES and CROSSES to where Maddie STANDS at the mirror...

CLOSE ON

86

...the woman as she RUNS a finger across her eyeshadow...she SNIFFLES again, then LOOKS through her bag for something... Maddie's HAND EXTENDS a packet of kleenex...

ANGLE TO INCLUDE

BOTH OF THEM

87

...as the woman LOOKS at Maddie, a little unsure of the friendly gesture...

WOMAN

Thanks.

MADDIE

You okay?

...the woman NODS...

MADDIE (cont'd)

I couldn't help overhearing what happened out there.

WOMAN

Have to be deaf not to... like yelling at me in public.

MADDIE

So why do you put up with it?

...the woman gives Maddie a cool up and down.

WOMAN

'Cause women like you are the ones who find princes on white stallions.

...the woman HANDS the package of kleenex back to Maddie then LEANS TOWARD the mirror to fine tune her eye make-up...Maddie WATCHES her...curious...and then...

MADDIE

Have you ever been to St. Ursula's Church?

WOMAN

(turns, scrutinizing Maddie; suspicious)
Who are you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

87

MADDIE

My name is Maddie Hayes...
I'm an investigator.

WOMAN

You're with that other guy.

MADDIE

...My partner.

...realizing she's been set up, the woman ABRUPTLY TURNS and HEADS for the door...

MADDIE (cont'd)

Please...hear me out.

WOMAN

What do you want?

MADDIE

Father McCabe hired us to find
a woman...someone he met in
confession.

ON THE WOMAN

88

...SURPRISED...

WOMAN

Father McCabe...
(and then;
musing)
...never knew his name.
(looks up
at Maddie)
But why?

...before Maddie can answer, someone BANGS on the ladies room door.

BRUNO (O.C.)

Hurry up in there. Mr. Gant's
got a bet on the next race...
wants you with him for good
luck.

MADDIE

Steven Gant?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

88

WOMAN

You know him?

MADDIE

Let's just say his reputation precedes him.

WOMAN

I don't understand, what does Father McCabe want with me?

MADDIE

He'll explain.

...the woman hesitates, unsure, and then...

MADDIE (cont'd)

It's important you see him...Please.

...and then the woman relents, REACHES into her purse, TAKES OUT a pen and scrap of paper...as she writes...

WOMAN

He can reach me here.

...she hands the card to Maddie, who reads it...

MADDIE

(reads)

Alisia Cepeda...pretty.

...the woman reaches for her purse and knocks it off the counter, spilling the contents onto the floor...Maddie stoops, to help retrieve Alisia's things...

ANGLE ON

MADDIE

89

...as she picks up a brown glass vial from the floor, filled with a white powder and then...Alisia snatches it out of Maddie's hands...and then...

ALISIA

(shrugs)

Whatever gets you through the night.

...Alisia stands and exits...

ON MADDIE

90

...WATCHING her go...

CUT TO:

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE - DAY

CLOSE ON

DAVID

91

...as he SPINS around...astonished...

DAVID

Steven Gant?

ANGLE TO INCLUDE MADDIE

92

MADDIE

...and Alisia Cepeda are an
item.

DAVID

Steven Gant?

...Maddie NODS...

DAVID

The Steven Gant...underworld
maven...pornography magnate...
drug dealer extraordinaire,
capo de tutti capo...a thug
for all seasons?

MADDIE

That Steven Gant.

...David DIGESTS the information...and then SETTLES into
his chair, SHAKING his head...

DAVID

Our mystery woman couldn't
be a museum curator...
or somebody's spinster Aunt
...no...she has to be a gun
moll.

(and then)

Delightful...abso...boinking
...lutely delightful.

...and then...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

92

MADDIE

I felt sorry for her really...
burned out...used up...I got
the feeling Gant keeps her
on a string...just to have
someone to kick around.

DAVID

Maddie, you've got a big
heart...and our client's
got big trouble.

...silence...and then...Maddie LOOKS up to David as it
dawns on her...

MADDIE

Why does Father McCabe ever
have to know we found her?

...David LOOKS at her puzzled...

MADDIE (cont'd)

He was out when I stopped
by the rectory...so I left
Alisia's address with the
housekeeper...if we can get
that envelope before he does...

DAVID

You're proposing we lie?

MADDIE

...Like a rug...We tell him
we scoured the town...
looked high and low, hither
and yon...and came up empty
handed.

DAVID

And what reason would we have
for fabricating this little
tale?...apart from some
masochistic impulse to lose
our license.

MADDIE

Do you really want to tell
him he left the priesthood
for a kept woman...and the
crowd she runs with couldn't
be more crooked if they

MORE

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

92

MADDIE (cont'd)
were on Miami Vice.

DAVID
Why not?...It's the truth.

MADDIE
We'd be sparing the feelings
of a man who's given up
everything...for nothing.

DAVID
I've done some shady things
in my life...coveted my
neighbor's wife...coveted
my neighbor's daughter...
even coveted my neighbor's
mom. But lying to a priest
...bad karma Maddie.

DAVID
Telling him the truth will
destroy the one ideal he
has left...David, he broke
his vows for her.

DAVID
His choice...we took the case
...our choice. And all of us
have to live with the
consequences of those
decisions...whether we like
it or not.

...Maddie TURNS to David, FUMING...

MADDIE
How can you be so cold?

DAVID
Reality check Maddie...this
is not, repeat, not the Big
Rock Candy Mountain.

DAVID (cont'd)
...love stories only
sometimes, have happy
endings...and the mounties
get their man maybe seventy-
five percent of the time...
if they're lucky...Maddie...

MADDIE
...not to mention heartless,
insensitive, selfish, un-
romantic, and mean. I bet
you rooted for the Grinch
when he stole Christmas.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

92

...they both run out of breath, then INHALE in unison...David begins...cooler now.

DAVID (cont'd)

He's not going to stop looking just because we couldn't find her...and if Gant ever catches him fooling around with one of his girls, our ex-priest'll end up sleeping with the fishes.

CLOSE ON

93

...Maddie as David's logic sinks in...

DAVID (cont'd)

We have to tell him the truth... for his own good...
(and then)
...and I think you know I'm right.

MADDIE

(resigned)
Yeah...
(and then)
but I hate you for it.

...Maddie WALKS past David out of the office...

ON DAVID

94

...watching her go...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. RECTORY - NIGHT

95

ESTABLISHING

INT. RECTORY - NIGHT

CLOSE ON

JOSEPH McCABE

96

...dressed in polo shirt and sweater...he takes in the new look, SMILES...oddly peaceful...

McCABE

What do you think? Do I pass
as a civilian?

ANOTHER ANGLE

97

...we see that he is STANDING in front of a mirror...

MADDIE

It's not too late for you to
reconsider your decision.

McCABE

Nothing to reconsider. The
letter arrived from Rome
this morning.

...he TURNS...

ANGLE

98

...to REVEAL a sparsely furnished room with a single bed,
almost a cot...the other furnishings include a chair, desk,
lamp, and a crucifix which hangs on an otherwise empty wall...
Maddie STANDS in the doorway, while David LEANS against the
desk...McCabe GESTURES TOWARD the chair to Maddie...

McCABE

Sure you wouldn't like to
sit?

MADDIE

Father McCabe...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

98

McCABE
(correcting her)
Joe McCabe...just plain Joe
McCabe.

...McCabe, pre-occupied as he CROSSES to a closet and REMOVES a long black cassock which HANGS on a rack...

McCABE
Won't be needing this anymore.

DAVID
I don't think you understand
what Maddie and I are telling
you.

McCABE
Wonder if it'll fit Father
Estevez.

...and then he LOOKS up at Maddie and David as if he has suddenly remembered their presence...

McCABE (cont'd)
Forgive me. I must seem un-
grateful...and I really do
appreciate your concern. But
nothing you've told me about
Alisia changes the way I feel
...not the police record...
not this Mr. Ghent.

MADDIE
Gant.

McCABE
I love her.. And tomorrow
morning I'm going to ask
her to be my wife.

...he FOLDS the cassock and LAYS it on the bed...then, CROSSES to the desk and SORTS through a small stack of books...

DAVID
What's the rush?...you've been
sitting out the last twenty
years...play the field a little.

...Maddie SHOOTs David a LOOK...and then...

MADDIE
All we're saying is Alisia
Cepeda may not be the woman
you think she is.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

98

...McCabe LOOKS up at David and Maddie...

McCABE

Jesus kept the company of
thieves and prostitutes.
It didn't matter to him
what crimes they committed.
He saw their inner light.

...and then...as McCabe ARRANGES the books in a small filing
box on his desk...

McCABE (cont'd)

If He could do that - who am I
to sit in judgement.

(and then:
a distant
expression
crosses his face)

Whatever's in her past I can
forgive her...

(and then;
turning to
them)

Can you understand?

DAVID

I just hope Steven Gant does.

McCABE

Don't worry Mr. Addison...I
can take care of myself...
Something you learn growing
up in the Bronx.

...and then...

MADDIE

Where will you go?

McCABE

I'll take a room at the
Georgian...I'll get a job...
Then, I don't know. Maybe
we'll travel...or maybe I'll
just sit by the fire and listen
to her play the piano. Did
you know she played the piano?

...he LOOKS up at Maddie and David who LOOK back at him...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

98

McCABE (cont'd)
 You think I'm crazy? But it's
 okay, really. I know what
 I have to do.

...McCabe LOOKS around the small room...

McCABE (cont'd)
 Well, guess that's everything.

...Maddie and David WATCH McCabe as he CLOSES box...

McCABE (cont'd)
 When Gandhi died, all his
 possessions fit into a shoe
 box.

...he LIFTS box with ease...

McCABE (cont'd)
 One of the benefits of re-
 nouncing worldly goods...
 (looks up
 to Maddie
 and David)
 ...you travel light.

...McCabe SMILES...and then...as they EXIT room, McCabe
 STOPS and TURNS...

McCABE
 Almost forgot...

...he CROSSES to wall, TAKES DOWN the crucifix...KISSES it...
 then TUCKS IT into box...

ON MADDIE AND DAVID

99

...WATCHING him...

CUT TO:

EXT. BMW - NIGHT

100

...as the Beemer WINDS around a canyon curve...

CUT TO:

INT. BMW - NIGHT

101

...Maddie DRIVING...David RELAXED...silence...and then...

MADDIE
 Maybe they'll be happy
 after all.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

101

DAVID

Maybe...

MADDIE

I don't know who I thought
I was protecting...certainly
not McCabe.

DAVID

Don't beat yourself up,
Maddie...I'm the one who
should feel this big...

(gestures with
his fingers)

Not in anatomical proportion
of course...But I figured
once he got the dirt on her
they'd be history...instead...
dum dum di dum...

...David HUMS the wedding march...

MADDIE

I guess he's just a bigger
person than either of us are.

DAVID

Yep...

...and then...after a pause...

MADDIE

David...what actually goes on
in a confessional anyway?

DAVID

Well, you go in and say
"Bless me Father for I
have sinned." The priest
asks how long it's been
since your last confession.
You hem and haw a little, then
confess your transgressions.

MADDIE

I know all that. I see DeNiro's
films. But what really happens?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

101

DAVID

I don't know...after the priest gives you absolution you feel...like a million bucks...The weight of the world lifted off your shoulder.

...and then...

MADDIE

Just like that?

DAVID

Just like that.

...and then...the longest pause...and...

MADDIE

Oh.

...David LOOKS over at her...

DAVID

What's that suppose to mean.

MADDIE

Nothing.

DAVID

An insincere "oh"...followed by a less sincere "nothing" adds up to a something.

MADDIE

No, really, it just all means a little...

...as Maddie searches for the right word...and then...David TUGS on his ear lobe...

DAVID

Sounds like.

MADDIE

...a little easy.

DAVID

Easy?

...Maddie, satisfied with her word choice, NODS...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

101

MADDIE

Easy.

DAVID

...Telling someone the most intimate details fo your life ...admitting failures...weaknesses...and getting down on your knees...asking to be forgiven...you call that easy?

MADDIE

All you have to do is show up, say you're sorry...and the slates wiped clean.

DAVID

It's called grace.

MADDIE

Look David...no offense...

DAVID

Yes offense.

MADDIE

...But I happen to believe it's a lot more complicated than simply asking forgiveness every-time you screw up.

DAVID

So instead you should feel guilty for the rest of your life.

MADDIE

No...but all you're talking about is alleviating guilt.

(and then)

You want a better world... change the way people act... And you do that by understanding the reasons for their behavior. Why they're angy, frustrated, why they cheat and steal.

DAVID

(disdainfully)

What've you been, eavesdropping in some shrink's office?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

101

...and then, David LOOKS over at Maddie who is suddenly silent...
and then...

 DAVID (cont'd)
Maddie...

 MADDIE
What?

 DAVID
You haven't...

...and then...

 MADDIE
What if I have?

...Maddie LOOKS up at David, regards his stunned expression...
and then...

 DAVID
I don't believe you're
telling me this. You pay
money to lie down on some
shrink's couch so he can
look up your dress?

 MADDIE
I sit in a chair and he's
a she.

 DAVID
How often?

 MADDIE
Now and then...

 DAVID
Once a month? Once a week?
Everyday?

 MADDIE
 (firmly)
Now and then...
 (and then)
David, you'd think I was
admitting to cannibalism.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

101

...they each LOOK straight ahead...and then...after a long silence...

DAVID

Why didn't you tell me?

MADDIE

You never asked.

...David NODS...and then...

DAVID

Ever talk about me?...not that I care.

MADDIE

Sometimes...not that it matters.

...another long silence...David does a slow burn...then FOLDS his arms across his chest...and then...

DAVID

You have no right talking about me behind my back...If you've got a problem...you can come to me.

MADDIE

David, this is not about you ...this is about me...my problems...my life...

...uneasy pause...David breaks the tension with an amused SMILE and then...

DAVID

So...what does she say about me?...Not that it matters.

...Maddie SIGHS in frustration...resigned...

MADDIE

If you must know...she doesn't say much about anything...she listens mostly.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

101

DAVID

And I bet Madame Freud nicks you
for a bundle while she sits there
like a bump on a log.

MADDIE

She is not a bump on a log and
how much I pay her is a personal
question.

DAVID

I love this...it's okay for you
to cast aspersions on other
people's religion...

MADDIE

I was not casting aspersions.

DAVID

...But I can't ask you how
much you're getting ripped
off every week?

MADDIE

I'm not being ripped off.

DAVID

So it is every week.

DAVID

A forty-five minute hour
...Spaulding doesn't have
a racket that good...and
if you want to talk about
responsibility, why don't
you watch where the hell
you're going...

MADDIE

That is none of your business
...and it is not a racket. An
individual has to take respon-
sibility for his own actions
instead of looking for some
authority figure to wave a
wand and make it all better...

ANGLE

102

...as FLASHING RED LIGHT APPEARS in the rear window...

DAVID (cont'd)

...You just ran a red light.

SHOCK CUT TO:

EXT. CANYON ROAD - NIGHT

103

...as a CHP officer APPROACHES the BMW CARRYING a flashlight...

INT. BMW - NIGHT

104

...as officer LEANS over and LOOKS into window...

ANGLE TO INCLUDE MADDIE AND DAVID

105

MADDIE

What seems to be the problem officer?

OFFICER

See that light back there?

...Maddie LEANS out window and LOOKS back up road...

MADDIE

The green one?

OFFICER

It was red when you drove through it.

MADDIE

Really?

OFFICER

May I see your license and registration please?

...as Maddie SEARCHES through her purse, David LEANS forward...

DAVID

Excuse me officer, but I think the light turned red after the young lady entered the inter-section.

...as Maddie HANDS over the documents the cop LOOKS up at David, humorless...and then...

OFFICER

Would you step out of the car please, ma'am?

...Maddie SHOOTS David a withering look...

MADDIE

Thank you Clarence Darrow.

EXT. BMW - NIGHT

106

...as Maddie STEPS OUT of the car, the cop SHINES a light in her eyes...and then...

OFFICER

Ma'am, have you ever had a sobriety test?

MADDIE

No...but I haven't been...

OFFICER

(interrupts her)

Would you please put your arms out to the side?

...Maddie LOOKS at him...HEAVES a SIGH...then complies...

ANGLE

107

...as David CALLS from inside car...

DAVID

Simon didn't say.

OFFICER

Touch your finger to your nose.

...as she touches her finger to her nose...

DAVID

(triumphantly)

Yes...but can she pat her head and rub her stomach at the same time.

OFFICER

Buddy, how'd you like to be arrested for assault with an abrasive personality?

...she TURNS to the cop as he REACHES for ticket book...

MADDIE

Really officer...I'm terribly sorry...this will never happen again.

(she watches as
he begins writing)

Couldn't you...Won't you...

(CONTINUED)

...but PLEADING is useless and she SIGHS in frustration...
resigned to her fate...as the police radio BLARES in background...

RADIO (O.C.)
Possible 187 at 1021 North
Adelaide...All units in the
area please respond...See
the man...

...the broadcast catches Maddie's attention...she LOOKS up
at the officer...CONCERNED...

MADDIE
Officer...what's a 187?

OFFICER
(continues
writing)
A D.B.

MADDIE
Excuse me?

OFFICER
Dead body.

...Maddie's eyes WIDEN as he TEARS ticket from notebook...

OFFICER (cont'd)
I'm letting you off with a
warning this time...

...suddenly anxious...Maddie SNATCHES the ticket from the
officer's hand then TURNS quickly and GETS into the car.

OFFICER (cont'd)
...but if I catch you in a car
with that clown again...
(points to
David)
I'll book you for wreckless
driving.

...Maddie lights up the tires and SCREECHES off...

INT. BMW - NIGHT

...Maddie TURNS to David...

(CONTINUED)

