

THE ENFORCERS

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&

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COLD OPEN

INT. STOCKTON POLICE DEPT. TRAINING FACILITY

We are in a LARGE BUILDING where a POLICE TRAINING DRILL is in progress. NORA (mid-thirties, think Reese Witherspoon, bright, driven, feisty, a bit of a pain in the ass) negotiates her way through a DIMLY LIT CORRIDOR. She wears a GAS MASK and HOLDS HER gun out in front of her as she CAUTIOUSLY proceeds through the drill. Everything about her seems a little uptight. Her HAIR is PULLED BACK severely, her STOCKTON PD TRAINEE SWEATSHIRT is tucked into her pants. She moves with PRECISE, STACCATO movements as if a bad guy was going to jump out at her at ANY MOMENT. Suddenly ANOTHER TRAINEE wearing a gas mask runs up behind her. This is MAGGIE (late 20's early 30's, think Aidy Bryant, a little too loud, a little too cheerful, a lot sloppy). Her UNKEMPT hair SPROUTS WILDLY between the straps of her gas mask. Her sweatshirt is TOO BIG so instead of having her gun at the ready, she has to KEEP FIDDLING with her sleeves. She HEARS SOMETHING, turns around AWKWARDLY to see what it is and BACKS UP into NORA.

NORA
(unintelligible through
gas mask)
Gwah yar ya dobin? Am a lee undis
eser si! Gaa ma Hi-mee!

MAGGIE takes off her GAS MASK.

MAGGIE
Okay, I can't understand a word
you're saying.

NORA WHIPS her mask OFF as well.

NORA
(super annoyed)
I said, "I'm the lead on this
exercise! Get behind me!"

MAGGIE
Oh, my God. I thought you said,
"I'm lean, and call me Hymie."
That didn't make any sense.

NORA
Why is your mask off? Never take
your mask off.

MAGGIE
Calm down, Hymie. Yours is off
too.

Suddenly, a CARDBOARD "BAD GUY" POPS UP a few feet from them. They SCREAM. Then ANOTHER pops and ANOTHER. MAGGIE and NORA continue screaming and DROP THEIR GUNS. As they BEND DOWN to find them in the darkness a CAN ROLLS in front of them.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)
What the hell is that?

NORA
I have no idea.

As NORA GRABS it, TEAR GAS POURS from the can.

MAGGIE
Mask! Mask!

As NORA and MAGGIE struggle to get THEIR GAS MASKS ON, the room FILLS WITH SMOKE.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. POLICE CAPTAIN'S OFFICE

NORA and MAGGIE, eyes swollen and red, sit in front of the CAPTAIN.

CAPTAIN
Okay, I think it goes without saying that you will not be moving forward with the police academy training.

NORA
Sir, please. Making the force is so important to me, and I know that I wasn't stellar today, but I feel like I've improved quite a bit since I started the program.

CAPTAIN
Yes, that's true.
(reading from file)
You went from "very unsafe", to "fairly unsafe", in four out of five exercises. Today your instructor just wrote down,
(reading)
"God awful."

Maggie LAUGHS.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)
 Would you like me to read what he
 wrote about you?

MAGGIE
 No I'm good. I know I'm a
 disaster.

CAPTAIN
 Look, I like you girls. Watching
 you try to go over the obstacle
 wall lifted a year long depression
 I had. So here's an option, there's
 an opening in another department
 that's in need of help right now.
 You interested?

Nora and Maggie look intrigued.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. STOCKTON CODE ENFORCEMENT BUILDING

It is a typical CITY GOVERNMENT OFFICE. PLAIN, DRAB, with
 industrial desks. NORA and MAGGIE stand with a GROUP OF
 PEOPLE. A SUPERVISOR, GEORGE (early 40's, large, super
 affable but nervous, think Mel Rodriguez) STANDS in front of
 them.

GEORGE
 ...so as Code Enforcement
 Inspectors your job is make sure
 the fine citizens of Stockton are
 adhering to all city codes. And now
 because of budget cuts this
 department has to cover
 (looking at paper)
 noise complaints, building
 inspections, water misuse, sewage
 issues, tree trimming, and Weight
 Watchers weigh in.
 (then)
 Sorry, that last one was for me.
 Welcome aboard everyone. You are
 now officially... code cops.

Nora looks CRESTFALLEN. Maggie is BEAMING.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE**INT. STOCKTON CODE ENFORCEMENT BULLPEN**

PETE, (mid 30's, awkwardly tall, super sweet, chatty, can be an emotional rollercoaster, think Pete Holmes) is showing MAGGIE AROUND.

PETE

... so I know it's a lot to take in with all the departments that have folded in here, but we're really just one big happy public utilities family.

(a little dark)

Except for the guys from the Waste Water Division. We don't talk to them, they don't talk to us. That's how we both like it.

Nora PASSES BY. Pete STOPS her.

PETE (CONT'D)

Oh, Nora, right? This is Maggie. She's a new recruit too. Sometimes it can get a little overwhelming in the beginning so it's nice to have someone to--

NORA/MAGGIE

No thank you. God, no.

Nora QUICKLY crosses away. Maggie NOTICES a name plate on a DESK.

MAGGIE

Oh, look at that.

(reading name plate)

Inspector Serrano. There's someone here with my last name.

PETE

That's your desk.

MAGGIE

Oh, right. I'm Inspector Serrano.

(proudly)

I'm Inspector Serrano.

(then)

Sorry, I know it seems weird that I'm this excited but I'm a single mom and jobs are hard to come by.

FLASHBACK - EXT. STREET CORNER

Maggie is awkwardly TWIRLING a large CONDO RENTAL sign. She throws it high up in the air in order to make an elaborate catch. THEN QUICKLY REALIZES that there's no way that's going to happen, and DUCKS AND COVERS as the sign CRASHES TO THE GROUND.

END FLASHBACK

PETE

Yeah, this is a great place to work. Oh FYI, there's no bathroom on this floor. And the other floors don't love it when we use theirs. But there's a Chipotle next door, and if you buy a soda you can use the bathroom there.

MAGGIE

So, are you an inspector too?

PETE

Oh, no, no. My talents are more in the creative. I do the PR around here. Right now, I'm working on the new water restrictions. Just trying to get the public to realize in a fun way that this drought is really...the beginning of the end...for mankind.

(then)

Anyway, over there is Sean. He's the senior inspector. Great guy. Great, great guy. He's a little threatened by me, because I'm so close with the supervisor, George. Jealousy's a killer, right?

SEAN (late 30's, good-looking, sexy, charming, bemused with life. Think James Marsden) CROSSES BY.

SEAN

(patting Pete's back)

How's it goin', buddy?

PETE

(super jealous)

Where are you going, are you going to George's office? Because he doesn't want to be disturbed. He already told me.

(a little shrill)

Don't go to George's office, okay?

ANGLE ON:

NORA who is on the other side of the bullpen, LOOKS at a LARGE BULLETIN board. She GLANCES over her SHOULDER and sees that Sean is STARING at her. She looks away and ROLLS HER EYES. SEAN CROSSES to her.

SEAN

Excuse me, I know you saw me looking over here--

NORA

Yeah I did. And I know why. You're the office "bad boy". You hit on all the new girls that come in here, and pretty soon you've slept with everyone in the office. Except for me.

(a little cocky)

I'm going to be a detective someday, so I know how to read people. It's kind of a skill I've honed.

SEAN

Um, I was actually looking over here because I was trying to see where I'm assigned today and this is where it's posted. I couldn't see it because your head was in the way.

(pointing at board)

There it is. Sean. Lincoln Village. Building code violations.

(to Nora)

You do read people well.

He CROSSES away. Nora IMMEDIATELY feigns deep interest in the map on the board, to cover HER EMBARRASSMENT. GEORGE enters with a CLIPBOARD.

GEORGE

Okay everybody, I want to keep this meeting short. I've got a live press conference in a few days and I need to prepare for it. As some of you know...I am not good live.

FLASHBACK - INT. AUDITORIUM

It is ROOM FULL of PEOPLE. We see the BACK OF GEORGE as he STANDS at a PODIUM.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
 ...so for the next three months,
 the roads between Alpine and
 Pershing will be closed for
 sinkhole repair. Any questions?

ANGLE ON: GEORGE FROM THE FRONT

He is BATHED IN SWEAT. HE casually DABS his SOAKED FOREHEAD
 with a DRENCHED HANDKERCHIEF. A person in the AUDIENCE
 raises their hand.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
 Yes. You in the back?

MAN
 (concerned)
 Do you need to go to hospital?

END FLASHBACK

GEORGE
 I've partnered up the new recruits
 and here are your assignments.
 Tim and Jonah you'll take Garden
 City. There's some garbage
 infractions.

PETE
 Tim and Jonah, garbage!

GEORGE
 (slightly annoyed)
 Silva and Rick, take Oakmore. Noise
 complaints.

PETE
 Noise! Silva and Rick!

GEORGE
 I can't do this today, Pete.
 Please.
 (then)
 Nora and Maggie, you'll patrol
 Kennedy for water violations.

NORA and MAGGIE shoot each other a "Are you frickin' kidding
 me" look. Then QUICKLY LOOK away.

GEORGE (CONT'D (CONT'D)
 And remember, when it comes to lawns our motto around here is "if you see green, you gotta be a little mean." Okay, that's it everyone. Oh, one more thing. We still haven't found who's been stealing water from the main district tank. So I need someone to put up a surveillance camera after their shift today--

NORA
 I'll do it.

MAGGIE
 Of course she will.

NORA
 And thank you sir, for this opportunity. I won't let you down.

GEORGE
 Okay, it's just putting up a camera. Like on a tree, or a post or whatever you find.

George STARTS TOWARDS his OFFICE. Nora RUSHES to catch up to him.

NORA
 Excuse me, Captain?

GEORGE
 You don't have to call me Captain because I'm not one.

He EXITS into his OFFICE. Nora follows.

INT. GEORGE'S OFFICE

George sits down at his desk. Nora sits ACROSS FROM HIM.

NORA
 I just want you to know that I don't plan on being here very long. As soon as the ban is lifted, I'm going back to the police academy because my real dream is to become a detective.

GEORGE

Uh-huh. My real dream was to be a gymnast but my thyroid said no. I'm not sure what we're doing here?

NORA

I'm just wondering about me and Maggie being partners? I don't want to say anything bad about anyone, but she's a major screw-up.

GEORGE

You mean she's not the best of the best? Because that's usually what we get around here.

Pete TAPS on George's OFFICE WINDOW. He HOLDS up a CARDBOARD TRAY OF COFFEES and a BAG.

PETE

(mouthing)

I got coffee and muffins.

As he HOLDS UP the tray to show George it TOPPLES OVER. Pete quickly tries to CATCH IT and SMASHES his head on the window.

GEORGE

Make it work.

NORA

(saluting)

Of course, Captain. Sorry, not Captain.

GEORGE

Oh, my God. They can't send me one normal person?

Maggie STICKS her HEAD in the OFFICE DOOR, not seeing Nora.

MAGGIE

Hi, is there any way I could get a different partner? Nora's a tight-ass bitch.

George's eyes NERVOUSLY SHOOT to where Nora is standing.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

(seeing her)

Hey! You know I saw you there, right? Partners! Yay!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOINT. NORA'S CAR - LATER

Nora is DRIVING. Maggie is in the PASSENGER SEAT.

MAGGIE

(looking out window, re: lawns)
Brown...brown...another brown. Oh!
Green! Pull over!

NORA

(looking)
That's a fake lawn.

MAGGIE

Damn. I was all ready to go up
there and give them a full on
verbal warning.

(then)

You know, maybe not making it
through the police academy was a
blessing in disguise. This job is
incredible.

(looking out window)

Brown...brown...brown.

Nora GLARES AT HER.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

You know what's weird? We went
through all those weeks of training
together and I don't know one thing
about you. Well, I know you can't
outrun a police dog. But neither
can I, so no judgement there.

Nora is SILENT.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I'll start then. I'm a single mom.
Recently divorced, but we're still
close. Have to be, because of the
kids.

(off Nora's non-response)

I have two kids, nine and seven.
Yeah, I had them kind of young,
thanks for not judging me. What's
that you say? Oh, a boy and a
girl. You know, for someone who
wants to be a detective so bad, you
don't ask a lot of questions.

NORA

Oh, you want questions? Okay. Who is stealing from the district water tank? How can I help catch them? If I kicked you out of this car right now, would you be able to walk home? Most of my questions pertain to work, because...we're working.

MAGGIE

You know what, Hymie? You're a lot of fun. I really won the lottery when I got you as a partner.

NORA

(noticing something)
Uh-oh, I think we got one.

Maggie looks OUT HER WINDOW to see A MAN WASHING HIS CAR in the DRIVEWAY.

NORA (CONT'D)

Damn, I wish we had sirens or lights or something.

Nora PULLS THE CAR over.

EXT. DRIVEWAY

Nora and Maggie WALK UP TO THE MAN, who continues to WASH HIS CAR.

MAGGIE

(friendly)
Hi there, sorry to bother you. You're probably not aware of this but--

NORA

(to man)
Sir, we're from with the Stockton Code Enforcement Department. You need to turn your water off. Please do so now.

MAN

(struggling)
My English...not so good.

NORA
 (to Maggie)
 Of course he doesn't speak English,
 how convenient.
 (then)
 Sir, once again, I'm going to ask--

MAGGIE
 Habla Espanol?

MAN
 Si.

As this CONVERSATION GOES ON, we see the CHYRONED
 TRANSLATIONS.

MAGGIE
 Nosotros trabajar para la ciudad y
 debido a la sequia, usted no puede
 lavar su coche.

TRANSLATION: "We work for the city and because of the
 drought, you can't wash your car."

MAN
 Si, si. Lo siento. Yo comprendo.

He TURNS THE HOSE off.

MAGGIE
 Tambien esta mujer es triste y
 lonley. Tal vez ella solo necisita
 un novio. Tienes amigos que no les
 gusta la diversion?

TRANSLATION: "Also, this lady is very sad and lonely. Maybe
 she just needs a boyfriend. Do you have any friends who don't
 like fun?"

The MAN LOOKS at Nora ODDLY.

NORA
 What are you saying to him?

MAGGIE
 Nothing. I'm explaining what days
 he can water and what days he
 can't.

NORA
 Okay, but be firm.

INT. BULLPEN - LATER

George is REHEARSING his SPEECH, as Pete WATCHES. Sean sits at his desk near by. Nora and Maggie are AT THEIR DESKS eating LUNCH.

GEORGE

(glancing at index cards)
...and once again we are coming to the community to ask for your cooperation. Remember we're Stockton, proud and strong.

PETE

Bravo!
(to Nora and Maggie)
Right guys?

MAGGIE

Yeah, it was pretty good. And super smart wearing a dark blue shirt. It hides sweat stains.

GEORGE

This is a light blue shirt.

There is an AWKWARD BEAT.

PETE

Okay, that's not going to happen at the press conference, because I'll have this.

Pete holds up a hand held SPRITZER FAN and sprays George in the face.

PETE (CONT'D)

Isn't it refreshing?

GEORGE

Stop that.

He sprays him again. George knocks it out of his hand.

SEAN

Can I ask you a question?

NORA

Oh, good God. I'm trying to eat my lunch. I do not want to go out with you.

SEAN

Wow. I was talking to George.

NORA
(covering)
And I was...texting.
(into cell phone)
That's all Siri. Send.

SEAN
(to George)
Why do you think public speaking
freaks you out so bad?

GEORGE
I have no idea. I used to love it.
In high school, I was president of
the speech and debate team. When I
went to college it all kind of
stopped.

SEAN
Did something bad happen?

GEORGE
No. Something funny happened.
(chuckling)
It was my first big college debate
and I had gained a little weight.
You know, the freshmen fifty. And
when it was my turn to get up to
speak...
(laughing)
I couldn't get out of the little
chair they had set up on stage.
You know the ones where the desks
are attached. So, I just stood up
and did the speech, but they were
laughing so hard, no one listened
to a word I said.
(laughing harder)
Because...I had...a chair stuck on
my big fat ass.
(then, pained)
Ah, college.

Sean CROSSES to George.

SEAN
You've worked for the city for
twenty years, right?

GEORGE
Twenty-two. Longest relationship
I've ever had.

SEAN

And you care about Stockton. You want it to be the best it can be.

GEORGE

Everybody goes on and on about Modesto, but Stockton is really the place to be.

SEAN

Then get up there and say what needs to be said. There's no chair stuck on your ass now, buddy. No one's going to laugh.

GEORGE

(touched)

Thanks Sean. You're a good friend.

PETE

(putting his arms around George and Sean's shoulders)

We're all good friends.

He inadvertently sprays George in the face.

GEORGE

(to Pete)

Get...away.

Nora crosses to Maggie.

NORA

Okay, lunch is over, let's go.

MAGGIE

I'm not done with my burrito. Can I finish it in your car?

Nora LOOKS AT ALL the food DROPPINGS on MAGGIE'S DESK, CHAIR, FLOOR and SHIRT.

NORA

Absolutely not.

EXT. DISTRICT WATER TANK AREA - LATER

It's getting DARK. Maggie is ATTACHING THE CAMERA to a TREE, as Nora LOOKS ON.

MAGGIE

There. It's up. Man, this was a long ass day. And I had no idea how much people hated being told what to do with their water.

FLASHBACK TO:

We see QUICK POPS of Maggie and Nora TALKING TO HOMEOWNERS who are SCREAMING at them to GET OFF their property, RIPPING UP their citations, sic-ing their SMALL DOGS on them, etc.

END FLASHBACK.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Okay, let's go home. My kids are with their dad tonight and I have this guy I'm cat-fishing. He thinks I'm twenty-two and a fitness model and he looves me.

Nora HANDS Maggie her KEYS.

NORA

Here.

MAGGIE

What's this for?

NORA

Just take my car. I'm going to do a stake out and see if I can't nab this guy.

MAGGIE

And what exactly are you going to do if you catch him? You don't have a badge or hand-cuffs. And you dropped your citation book when that old lady hit you in the stomach with her cane.

NORA

I'm not asking you to stay, but I need to do this. This is an important case and if I can solve it, then maybe...maybe...

MAGGIE

Maybe, what?

NORA

I don't know! Maybe they'll give me another shot at the academy.

(MORE)

NORA (CONT'D)

I waited fifteen years to start my career, and I can't wait anymore.

MAGGIE

Why did you wait fifteen years?
Oh, my God. Were you in prison? I knew it.

(holding her hand up)

Give me five, I did two days for shop-lifting.

NORA

No! It was because I was raising my son.

MAGGIE

You're a mom? Wow, prison I could see, but I do not get a mom vibe off you at all.

NORA

Yeah, well I am. And I wanted to be there for him twenty-four seven so I just stopped everything. And you know what? He's amazing. And I take full credit for that because I had to raise him on my own.

There is a BEAT.

MAGGIE

C'mon. Get in the car.

NORA

No, I already told you--

MAGGIE

Let's catch this son-of-a-bitch. Single moms who've done time have to stick together.

NORA

(exasperated)

I haven't done--oh, forget it!

INT. NORA'S CAR - LATER

Nora and Maggie SIT IN THE CAR, that is INCONSPICUOUSLY PARKED near the WATER TANK.

MAGGIE

What time is it? I'm so hungry.

NORA

It's almost mid-night. You don't have any snacks in that giant bag?

MAGGIE

I did. But I ate them on the way in to work this morning.

NORA

Oh, you know what? My son left his back-pack when I dropped him at my dad's. I bet he has something in there.

Nora REACHES BACK to get it. She STARTS to RIFLE through it.

NORA (CONT'D)

Oh, my God.
(pulling something out of
the back-pack)
Is this a weed cigarette?

MAGGIE

Did you just say weed cigarette?

NORA

It can't be. We have weekly talks about how weed cigarettes are the gate-way to the grave. Jackson would never do this.

MAGGIE

Let me see that.

Nora HANDS IT TO HER. Maggie LOOKS at it, SMELLS IT, then reaches into her bag, GRABS A LIGHTER, and STARTS TO smoke.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Yeah, it's weed. Not good weed, but...

NORA

What are you doing? We're on duty.

MAGGIE

No, we're on an unsanctioned stake-out. It's cold, we haven't eaten and

(indicating self)

Lola is missing a very hot phone call with a dentist from Wisconsin tonight, so I'm going to smoke.

(then)

(MORE)

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

C'mon, when was the last time you got high?

NORA

Never. I've never been high.

MAGGIE

My God. How do you get through your kid's recitals?

NORA

I can't believe that Jackson would do this. It's illegal. And I've shown him studies about how marijuana kills motivation.

MAGGIE

No, it doesn't. I smoked all through high school and I turned out fine.

NORA

You're a code cop.

MAGGIE

(taking a hit)
Says the code cop.

NORA

I'm not going to be a code cop for long. Because I'm going to be a--

MAGGIE

Detective. Yeah, I know. Take a hit of this, I can't hear you say that again.

Maggie HANDS the joint to Nora.

NORA

Will it make me less hungry?
Because I'm starving.

MAGGIE

Yes. That's exactly what it does.

Nora TAKES SOME AWKWARD HITS OFF THE JOINT and HANDS it back to MAGGIE.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CAR - ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES LATER

We see Maggie and Nora staring straight ahead, slack-jawed.

NORA

So what am I supposed to be feeling? I just feel dry. My mouth is so...dry. Is that what "high" feels like?

(smacking her dry mouth)

Mnah, mnah, mnah, mnah.

MAGGIE

Hey, can I admit something to you? Number one that's super annoying and has to stop, and two, I never really wanted to be a policeman.

NORA

Why did you try then?

MAGGIE

Because I have a huge family and pretty much everyone is in some form of law enforcement. Most of my siblings and cousins are on the force. And my kids think they are gods. Whenever they have to do a school paper about who they admire, they always write about anyone in my family...but me. I was just sick of it, you know? And sure, one day they'll appreciate that I cleaned offices at night, or that I mucked out cages at the zoo, or that I, and I'm not proud of this one...let Japanese businessmen brush my hair, but right now it's hard. I just want them to be proud of me.

(then)

Why do you want to be a detective so bad?

NORA

I don't know. It's just something I always wanted to do.

MAGGIE

Were your parents okay with it?

NORA

Well, my dad wasn't crazy about it because he was worried I was going to get hurt. And my mom left when I was little so...

MAGGIE

(taken aback)
Your mom left you?

NORA

Okay, I don't like to tell people that because they always have this mental image of a baby being abandoned in a dumpster, crying for it's mommy. But it really wasn't that bad, I was four years old. And she abandoned me at Disneyland. Cinderella ended up taking care of me for the entire day, so in some ways it was the happiest day of my life.

MAGGIE

(stricken)
Oh God, Nora. Don't you think that explains a lot?

NORA

You mean because I'm so strong and independent?

MAGGIE

Wow. Sure.
(gently)
And maybe the reason you want to be a detective so bad is because deep down inside you're just a little girl searching for her mom.

NORA

Oh please, Maggie. That's so sappy and ridiculous. Do you think I don't know myself better than that?

(scoffing)

That I'm driven by this deep seeded need?

(she snorts)

That's just...

(snorting)

Stupid...I mean, I think I would know if I were...

(breaking down)

looking for my mommy.

Nora FALLS INTO MAGGIE'S ARMS.

MAGGIE

It's okay. Let it go.

(stroking her hair)

Man, you have pretty hair. Mr. Hakumori would pay top dollar to do this.

Nora SOBS as Maggie COMFORTS her. We PULL BACK and see through the PASSENGER WINDOW that a figure has been SIPHONING WATER into a LARGE TANKARD. He finishes and DRIVES OFF.

NORA

(pulling out of hug)

Okay, enough of that. I've got to pull it together. We don't want to miss this guy.

INT. BULLPEN - NEXT MORNING

Maggie is there eating the last of a MUFFIN. Pete APPROACHES.

PETE

I'm so pissed. I had a banana muffin in the microwave and someone took it. Who does that?

MAGGIE

(swallowing quickly)

Maybe the guys from the Waste Water Division?

PETE

Typical! They act like they own the place.

He CROSSES OFF. Nora enters.

NORA

Hey, guess what? I talked to my son. Turns out that weed cigarette wasn't his. He was holding it for a friend. So...phew!

MAGGIE

(are you kidding me?)

Yeah, phew.

NORA

I really appreciate you staying there with me. And you know... letting me get some stuff out.

MAGGIE

We're partners, we help each other out. Speaking of which, my family is having a big reunion this weekend and I was wondering if you'd want to go with me. It would be great to bring someone who's older and more together. Someone who could explain to them what the hell this job is.

NORA

Older? How old do you think I am?

MAGGIE

I don't know, fif--

NORA

I'm thirty-eight!

MAGGIE

That's what I was going to say! A fun-loving, care-free thirty eight.

George STICKS HIS HEAD out of his OFFICE.

GEORGE

Ladies, can I see you in my office?

INT. GEORGE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

George SITS at his DESK.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

(super pleasant)

So thanks for setting up that camera like I asked. Hey, what did you do after? You didn't hang out there, did you?

(suddenly stern)

Because you're not policemen, and that would not be okay.

NORA/MAGGIE

No, we just went home. Yep, home.

GEORGE

Then this footage from the surveillance camera is confusing.

George PLAYS THE VIDEO on his COMPUTER. WE SEE Nora and Maggie, VERY HIGH, laughing HYSTERICALLY as they search for a place to pee.

NORA

Uh...that tape is pretty grainy.
You can't really tell who that is.

The VIDEO CONTINUES. It is a CLOSE-UP of Maggie's FACE, a JOINT hangs out of her MOUTH as SHE FIDDLES with something.

MAGGIE (ON TAPE)

Okay, Nora, I turned the camera off. We'll turn it back on after we pee.

(then, laughing)

Oh my God, are you pooping?!

SHE laughs until she FALLS OUT OF FRAME.

GEORGE

And you know what the worst part is?

NORA

I'm still alive?

GEORGE

You set the camera too low. So when the water thief actually showed up, all we saw was his feet.

MAGGIE

So, are you going to demote us?

GEORGE

Demote you to what? Ladies, you're as low as you're going to get here. Just try to pull it together.

INT. BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS

MAGGIE

I don't understand. I thought I turned the camera off.

NORA

But you didn't! You screwed up again and made me look like an idiot.

MAGGIE

Really? This is your fault. You're the one who wanted to do the stupid stake-out in the first place. You keep trying to make this job more than it is.

(MORE)

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry we're not real cops, but it doesn't mean we can't do a lot of good here.

NORA

Tell yourself whatever you want. But this job is embarrassing. And maybe being a glorified meter maid is okay for you, but I want something more for myself.

(crossing off)

Good luck at your reunion.

MAGGIE

Just so you know, the number one excuse kids use when they're caught with pot? "I'm holding it for a friend." So, good luck with that!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREEINT. BULLPEN - NEXT MORNING

Nora is at her DESK, WATCHING the SURVEILLANCE VIDEO from the stake out. We see a CLOSE UP of the screen and on it is a FIGURE visible ONLY from the KNEES DOWN. Nora STARES at it INTENSELY. Sean APPROACHES.

SEAN

Hi, we're all about to watch George do his live press conference on T.V. if you want to join.

(re: her screen)

Oh, I've played that over and over again too. Just not that part.

(beat)

What I mean is I saw you squat down--

NORA

I know what you mean!

SEAN

Hey, just so you know, I disabled the link so that no one else in the office can see the video. And I'm sure you'll probably think that's flirting with you, but I've done it for Pete too. He keeps posting "how to" videos of himself taking a four minute shower and he hasn't quite mastered the angle.

NORA

Oh...that's very nice of you.

SEAN

I'm actually a nice guy. I don't know how you got that I go around hitting on all of the girls in the office.

(intensely looking at her)

I only concentrate on the super attractive ones.

NORA

Oh, wait...are you saying that's me? I knew it! You were flirting. Not that I'm saying I'm super attractive... Dammit! Are you flirting or not?

Sean SHRUGS HIS SHOULDERS and AMBLES away.

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE

We see a STAGE with a PODIUM and CHAIRS on either side of it. There are STOCKTON CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT SIGNS and GRAPHS placed on EASELS at various points on stage. PHOTOGRAPHERS and JOURNALISTS are in the audience. George is in the wings GOING OVER INDEX CARDS. Pete APPROACHES with a BAG.

PETE

Okay, I got everything you need. A hanky for dabbing. Cool patches for the back of your neck.

(whispering)

Cool patches for your under-area.

GEORGE

You know what? I'm good. For some reason I'm not as anxious. I guess that talk with Sean really helped.

PETE

Good! Good, good, good.

(through gritted teeth)

Way to go, Sean!

GEORGE

Yeah, for the first time in forever I'm actually looking forward to this. I'm an expert in this field, I have invaluable information to share, and I'm rockin' this tan suit.

Pete takes out a HANKY and DABS George's upper lip.

PETE

You just had a little dew. You still need me.

INT. BULLPEN

Everyone in the OFFICE is GATHERING AROUND the T.V. Including Nora and Sean. Maggie comes in late, WITH a BAG OF POPCORN. She tries to see around TWO LARGE MEN, WEARING DARK suits who STAND IN FRONT of her.

MAGGIE

Excuse me. Could you move over a little bit? I can't see.

LARGE MAN

(ominous)

We don't move. We're the Waste
Water Division.

MAGGIE

(a little scared)

Jesus.

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE

George is at the PODIUM SPEAKING. SEATED on either side of him are the MAYOR and other CITY OFFICIALS. He is killing it. He looks CONFIDENT and not sweaty at all.

GEORGE

...the good news is that the labor dispute with the Sanitation Department has been resolved, but we're still going to ask the public to cut back on their water usage. I know it might seem unfair when some selfish individual is stealing tens of thousands of gallons a day, but we need to implement dramatic restrictions. And look, I hate restrictions as much as the next guy...

He PATS HIS BELLY. The CROWD LAUGHS.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

So I'll make a deal with you. If you only water your lawns on your allotted days, I'll stop eating an entire ham for my afternoon snack.

The CROWD LAUGHS AGAIN. George LEANS COCKILY against the EDGE OF THE PODIUM, which has NOT BEEN SECURELY PLACED on the base. IT TILTS, and George STARTS TO FALL. He flails and GRABS THE CURTAIN behind him to steady himself, but PULLS IT DOWN instead. The CURTAIN CRASHES into the DROUGHT POSTERS which George tries to catch, but loses his balance and he PLOWS INTO THE SEATED OFFICIALS KNOCKING EVERYONE to the GROUND. Unsure what to do, PETE RUNS UP, takes out his SPRITZER and sprays George IN THE FACE.

INT. BULLPEN

The CROWD watches with STUNNED SILENCE. Nora LOOKS very closely AT THE TV and notices SOMETHING.

NORA
Oh, my God.

INT. GEORGE'S OFFICE - LATER THAT AFTERNOON

George sits DEJECTEDLY at his desk. Pete OPENS the DOOR and STICKS his head in.

PETE
I know you don't want to be disturbed, but I have some great news. Your press conference has gone viral. One million people now know about the drought!

George SILENTLY CROSSES to the door and SHUTS IT in Pete's face. As he MOVES back to his chair. Nora ENTERS.

NORA
Do you have a minute?

GEORGE
Yeah, the pills I took shouldn't kick in for another hour.

NORA
I know this is going to sound a little crazy, but my dad has super thin feet. In fact, he has to have his shoes specially made by this Italian guy downtown. And they're weird looking shoes because they're so narrow. They're very unique. They almost look like small leather skis.

GEORGE
You know what goes good with pills? Booze. Do you think anyone has any booze out there?

NORA
(barrelling through)
So, I was looking at the surveillance footage and the tape from the press conference and guess who also owns a pair of narrow leather ski shoes? The water thief! And guess who had the exact same shoes on at your press conference. The comptroller! Who also happens to co-own a vineyard that's drying up like the Sahara!
(MORE)

NORA (CONT'D)

The comptroller is stealing the water!

(dropping the mic)

You been caught mutha!

GEORGE

Okay, you're a little amped. You want a pill?

NORA

I just can't believe it. Can I be there when you arrest him?

GEORGE

Well, no. He's in the hospital right now because I broke his collarbone. And also, we don't have the authority to arrest anybody. But we can talk to him and make him pay a big fine. You really don't get this place, do you?

She starts to LEAVE.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Hey. Good work today. It's nice to have you here.

Nora SMILES as she OPENS the door.

NORA

Thank you. It's...nice to be here.

(then)

And you looked...really good up there. Very...

GEORGE

Please go.

Pete STICKS HIS HEAD IN behind Nora.

PETE

One point two million!

INT. BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS

Nora has a PEP in her STEP as she CROSSES TO Maggie.

NORA

Hey. You ready to go?

MAGGIE

Uh, I think I'm going to ride alone today. It just doesn't feel like things are working out between us. You know, you being a bitch and all.

NORA

Look, I'm really sorry about what I said before--

MAGGIE

No, you were right. I am just kind of a meter maid. It's just weird that a meter maid could come up with this.

Maggie hands Nora A PIECE of PAPER.

NORA

What's this?

MAGGIE

Your mother's phone number.

Nora looks at it, SHOCKED. Maggie STANDS UP to make a SUPER DRAMATIC exit, but the BOTTOM of her COAT SNAGS on her DESK and she is STUCK. She WRESTLES with it for a bit.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Dammit.

(to Nora)

Can you just walk away please?

EXT. PARK - DAY'S LATER

Maggie's FAMILY REUNION is in full SWING. Maggie sits at a PICNIC TABLE with a COUPLE in their 60's.

MAN

Code cop? What the hell is that? Sounds made up.

WOMAN

Well if she was going to make something up, she'd say she was a police officer. Why would she say she's a code cop? That's sad.

MAGGIE

Well, thanks Mom and Dad. Always a blast.

Maggie grabs a BEER and WALKS OFF. Her daughter, Eleanor (9, adorable, a bit of a mess like her mom), APPROACHES.

ELEANOR

Hey, Mom. Can you come to school with me tomorrow? We're supposed to bring in someone for Career Day and I want to bring you.

MAGGIE

Really, honey? I can't believe it. That means so much to me.

ELEANOR

Well, I'm proud of you.
(looking off cheat sheet)
You're enforcing the city's code requirements so that the citizens of Stockton can live in harmony.

MAGGIE

What are you doing?

ELEANOR

Well, I want to get it right or
(pointing to a hiding
Nora)
she won't give me twenty dollars.

MAGGIE

(crossing to Nora)
What the hell is going on?

NORA

Look, I know you don't want me here but I just had to thank you. If you didn't set the camera up wrong, I never would have been able to figure out who was stealing the water.

MAGGIE

Well, it's about time someone appreciated my screw-ups.

NORA

And I also want to thank you for the phone number you gave me.

MAGGIE

Oh my God, did you call her?

NORA

We actually met for coffee.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. COFFEE HOUSE

Nora is HAVING COFFEE with an OLDER ASIAN WOMAN.

NORA (CONT'D)

Well, this was really fun.

ASIAN WOMAN

Yes it was. I hope you find your mother.

NORA

I hope you find your daughter.
(re: bill)
So, should we split this or...

END FLASHBACK:

MAGGIE

I'll be honest, I was shocked at how easy it was to find her. It was the first name I Googled.

NORA

Look, I know I'm not the easiest person to get along with but I'm working on it. And...I would really like you to be my partner again.

She HANDS Maggie A BASEBALL CAP. It says "CODE COP" on the FRONT. Nora PUTS HERS on.

NORA (CONT'D)

So what do you think?

MAGGIE

(putting hers on too)
I think I saw a Slip N Slide in progress on a non-watering day. Time to shut it down.

Maggie and Nora WALK OFF A LA "RESERVOIR DOGS".

END OF ACT THREE

TAG**EXT. HOUSE**

Maggie and Nora are at the FRONT DOOR, talking to a RATHER CREEPY looking guy in his fifties. His FRONT LAWN is full of CARS up on BLOCKS, tires, OLD CANS, etc.

NORA

Sir, I'm sorry but I'm going to have to write you a citation. It's against city code to have this much junk on your front lawn.

MAN

It's not junk. It's art.

Maggie WALKS OFF to survey the DEBRIS.

NORA

Art? Okay, sure. So those old tires with rats living in them is art?

MAN

I've worked for years on that.

NORA

And the milk cartons full of yellow liquid, you think that should be in a museum somewhere? How dumb do you think I am?

MAGGIE

(calling off, pointing at an old rusty bicycle)
Hey, how much do you want for this piece? It'd look nice in my entryway.

Nora ROLLS HER EYES, as she WRITES the CITATION.

END OF SHOW