

CHANCE MEETING

by Jacelya Jones

1 EXT. 8 AM, LYNSEY'S HONDA ELITE (MOVING) - MAJOR EAST-WEST STREET IN THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS OF CHICAGO - DAY

1

ANGIE AUSTIN (Female, Black, with curly, natural hair, Late 20's) is driving a Honda Pilot Elite. She reaches into the passenger seat, grabs a cell phone, goes into the "Notes" application, and scans the grocery list she has there.

ANGIE

I hate goldfish crackers. But you guys like 'em, don't you?

ANNA HARRIS (FEMALE, RED-HAIRED, 7 YEARS OLD)

Like what?

ANGIE

Goldfish.

BEAR HARRIS (MALE, BRUNETTE, 4 YEARS OLD)

Fishies!

ANNA

Are we late, Angie?

ANGIE

Hold on. This is your mommy calling. She told you to call me Miss Smythe, remember?

ANNA

But your NAME-

ANGIE

I know, Anna! But hush! Yes, good MORNING, Mrs. Harris! What can I do for you? I'm about to drop off.

LYNSEY HARRIS (FEMALE, BLONDE, MID
20'S)

Call me Lynsey, Angela. Good
MORNING! I just wanted to ask you
to please pick up some melatonin
for sleep and that grape seed
extract-

ANGIE

The cough syrup, or-?-

LYNSEY

No, just the extract. Vitamin
Shophe should have it. How is
Scout?

ANGIE

Awww, he's asleep in his car seat.
He's fine, Lynsey. It's probably
the weather. It's been so crazy.

LYNSEY

Yeah... I'm just sorry you have to
deal with it, Ange. It can't make
your job any easier. Grandma will
take him off your hands when her
flight gets in-

ANGIE

She's coming in from Seattle,
right? How long will she be here
again?

LYNSEY

A week or so.

ANGIE

Is your dad coming?

LYNSEY

I don't know. Maybe later. But with
Deena here, at least you'll have
some help.

BEAR

Hi, Mommy! Is Angie getting my mel-a-tone-ian?

LYNSEY

Good MORNING, Bear! Be a good boy, please-

ANGIE

Okay, Lynsey! We're here. Pulling up. Don't want to be on the phone. I'll call you back.

LYNSEY

Okay, honey. I have a conference call this morning, so text me. But I probably will have a late lunch and get back to you then. If I can...

ANGIE

No biggie. Okay, have a good day! Kids, say, Bye to Mom!

BEAR & ANNA

Bye!

ANGIE

I'll text you. BYE!

LYNSEY

Thanks, Angela! BYE!

ANGIE disconnects.

2 EXT. DESIGNATED DROP OFF AREA FOR CALVARY BAPTIST SCHOOL/
NORTH ENTRANCE - DAY

2

ANGIE

Have a great day, guys!

DROP OFF HELPER I

Take care!

ANGIE

Uh huh...

(under her breath)

for nothing... Let's get some
sleepy medicine for you guys and
let you lie down, okay, Scout-
Scout? Grandma will be here soon,
babe.

3 INT. 2:15 PM, INSIDE ONE OF AN AMERICAN MULTINATIONAL
RETAILING GROCERY STORE'S BUSY ENTRYWAY-IN THE PRODUCE
SECTION, WHICH IS DOTTED WITH FRIED DOUGH CONFECTIONERY AND
BAKED DISH DISPLAYS - DAY

3

ANGIE enters through automatic doors with a shopping cart
and stops, pulling out of her sweater.

ANGIE

Hi! How ARE you?

GREETER I

Fine. Good. And you?

ANGIE

Well... It's approaching sixty in
February so-

GREETER I

True!

ANGIE

-I can't really complain.

GREETER I

Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am. You have a
good day!

ANGIE

Thank you! You, too!

ANGIE folds her sweater in half and stuffs it into the
shopping cart's front seat, next to a purse. Then she
reaches into the purse. ANGIE pulls out a cell phone.

4 INT. AISLE OF THE GROCERY STORE - DAY

4

ANGIE moves past the displays of baked goods, past shoppers and the produce area, heading toward a row of frozen goods on one side, and a row of cosmetics on her right.

ANGIE

Ma'am? Ma'am? Can you tell me where
the deodorant is?

To the right of MART EMPLOYEE I, who is bending over to stock a shelf, SHOPPER I waves her arms. Then SHOPPER I points toward the back of the store.

ANGIE

Oh! Back this way?

SHOPPER I nods.

ANGIE

Okay, thank you.

MART EMPLOYEE I

I'll take you over there.

ANGIE

Oh! Okay. Thank you!

ANGIE heads over toward the back of the store in the general direction that she's been directed by SHOPPER I.

5 INT. AISLE, NEAR COUGH MEDICINE, VITAMINS, AND SUPPLEMENTS
- DAY

5

CHARLIE AUSTIN (tall, bookish, handsome, early 30's) drops one of many brightly-colored bags of cough drops. As he bends to pick that one up, another one drops. As CHARLIE reaches for that one, something else drops. He stands up.

ANGIE (VOICE OVER)

Go ahead and adjust your adorable
glasses, Professor... Oh! Careful
though; you might drop whatever you
have left. The tall drink of water
didn't want to get a cart, huh? Was
that your idea of efficiency,
Professor? Not so smart, if you ask

(MORE)

ANGIE (Voice Over) (CONT'D)
me. But I'm just a nanny. What do I
know? I WOULD give you MY cart,
but...

ANGIE looks around. She grabs one of two carts pushed into
merchandise displays arranged at the end of rows and turns
the end of the cart into CHARLIE's path.

ANGIE (V.O.)
Don't move, Professor!

ANGIE
Hey! You need to stop! This cart is
for you!

CHARLIE
I'm clumsy.

ANGIE
You're a professor. I'm...SURE
you're not a klutz...

CHARLIE starts dumping things into the cart that ANGIE has
steered into his path. A can opener hits the floor.

ANGIE (V.O.)
Where did THAT come from? Are
things falling from the SKY over
this guy?

ANGIE bends down and retrieves the can opener.

CHARLIE
I'm a programmer, actually.

ANGIE
Sick?

CHARLIE
Chest cold. Working from home.

ANGIE
For who?

CHARLIE

A bank.

ANGIE

Oh. I hear bad things about them.
Do you work at the one in here?

CHARLIE

What-?-Here in the grocery store?
No. Corporate. And that's,
technically, a credit union. So,
not the same.

ANGIE

Oh! So you're downtown? Chicago?

CHARLIE

It's neither exciting, nor
romantic. But, yes. Dearborn and
Madison. Or, Clark and Monroe.

ANGIE

Oh, I'm more of a...landmarks type
of girl. I know those are cross
streets though. I like a good GPS.
Okay. Well, I won't keep you. I
have groceries to get. You have
groceries to get. I have a list.

CHARLIE

I don't have a list. But now I have
a cart.

ANGIE (V.O.)

Oh, Professor... You're SERIOUSLY
adorable. You want me to shop with
you? I can't stop winning today. I
hope you know I'll take this as the
beginning of our courtship.

After a moment, ANGIE starts to transfer everything in her
cart to CHARLIE's cart.

ANGIE

Oh! Wait, Professor-!-

CHARLIE

Charles Austin.

ANGIE

Angela. I was going to say,
Charles, that I have hand
sanitizer. It's highly advisable to
sanitize the handles and basket
area-

CHARLIE

Are you talking like that because
you thought I was a professor?

ANGIE (V.O.)

Oh, I'll ALWAYS think of you as a
professor...and remember you in
your periwinkle blue sweater with
the sleeves pulled up.

ANGIE

Highly advisable? It IS a bit much,
huh?

CHARLIE

You can call me Charlie, Angela.

ANGIE

Good. Because everybody calls me
Angie.

ANGIE (V.O.)

And Charlie works for a guy who's
too impatient to get the cart he
needs to avoid a shit show in the
middle of the grocery store.

CHARLIE

Angie...

ANGIE

Charlie... Extra Grainy Flax and
Sesame Seed Bread... Cheese
enchiladas... Ginger ale-

CHARLIE

Check! I love Ginger ale, too.

ANGIE

Nah... That's DIET. Fundamentally,
not the same thing.

CHARLIE

Is that right?

ANGIE

Yes. And...it is terrible for your
brain-the fake sugar. My mom always
said, Lots of people like to think
with their hearts; and that's fine.
But it might be smarter to think
with your MIND.

CHARLIE

I think I can actually SEE the
woman you're talking about. The
woman who told you that-What?

ANGIE

I really LOVE how you... WHAT you
just said... My mom passed away
three years ago. Before
she...started forgetting...we were
best friends... I don't know why I
would tell you that.

CHARLIE

I'm sorry for your loss, Angie.
It... It-

ANGIE

You don't have to find something to
say.

CHARLIE

It sounds like... I'm not close with my parents really. It's not that we have a bad relationship. But we aren't...affectionate.

ANGIE

Are they smart, like you? Maybe that's why.

CHARLIE

I'm okay with it. But it sounds like your mom and you had a very close bond.

ANGIE

Well... I also need to pick up some hummus, pita chips, and yogurt.

CHARLIE

Okay...

ANGIE

Sorry. Charlie. I can shop, but I can't-I don't wanna talk about Angel.

CHARLIE

That was her name? I'm sorry. I-

ANGIE

Yes. Angelina.

CHARLIE

Is plain Greek yogurt okay? I have a tub of vanilla.

ANGIE

So... We're actually shopping together? I've never done...this before.

CHARLIE

Me either-whatever THIS is.

ANGIE

Flirting. You laugh-GUFFAW,
actually, but-

CHARLIE

Guffaw?

ANGIE

Yes! Look at you! You're doing it
right now.

CHARLIE

And you're smiling. Such a great
smile...

ANGIE

Definitely flirting. Thank you,
Charles... Charlie...

CHARLIE

Shall we? Well, that was a deep-

ANGIE

Contemplative.

CHARLIE

Hesitant. A sigh is a sigh
nonetheless. And probably not a
good sign.

ANGIE

Yeah... I'm a Christian.

CHARLIE

Oh yeah?

ANGIE

Oh, I'm not saying anything right
now-I mean about Christianity. I'm
not religious or anything.

CHARLIE

I thought Christianity-In fact, I
KNOW it's a religion. Right?

ANGIE

No, I mean, I'm not a rule-follower. Don't eat this. Don't drink that. Don't do that, or you're going to hell.

CHARLIE

Okay. Well, I guess I thought that was the definition of what it's like to be a Christian. That, and a cross around your neck. Or, a fish on your car... You have to be Republican, have lots of kids, and make sure they don't watch Harry Potter-

ANGIE

Read.

CHARLIE

Make sure they don't read. Check. Christian kids. I like that you're laughing and not hitting me.

ANGIE

READ Harry Potter. THAT'S the rule. Watching? Totally fine. Also. I like crosses, but they don't make me a Christian. We're being all over the place right now. All I was going to say is, I don't believe in fate or signs or anything like that.

CHARLIE

I met you for a reason today. You won't shop with me now. If I see you again, will you let me take you to lunch?

ANGIE

If I see you again?

CHARLIE

I'm not going to bother asking you for your number.

ANGIE

Why? Fine. I'm not gonna bother asking you whether you're a Christian.

CHARLIE

I was.

ANGIE

You either are, never will be...or, not yet.

CHARLIE

Really? Well, I have a childhood spent in Catholic school and services that says differently.

ANGIE

We grow up believing that, but none of that stuff is what actually makes us Christians. But listen, Regarding my cell phone number: I'd be more likely to give it to you than to agree to lunch. Without knowing you...

CHARLIE

Because I WILL see you again.

ANGIE (V.O.)

Wow. I think I misread you, Charlie. You're not tame at all, are you, Professor?

ANGIE

Yeah, maybe. And maybe I'm wrong about what fate even means: Maybe it's another way people think of God's Plan. Air quotes...

CHARLIE

Air quotes? Around..?

ANGIE

God's Plan...

CHARLIE

So, maybe..?

ANGIE

You know what? Do you like Thai food? I have to pick up kids. Also, it's too late for lunch today. Tomorrow...

CHARLIE

What, LUNCH?

ANGIE

Yes.

CHARLIE

KIDS?

ANGIE

Yes. I have to go. Now, actually. They're not mine.

CHARLIE

They're not? What...do you do with them?

ANGIE

Basically, I babysit. I'm a glorified babysitter. I tutor. I supervise. I chauffer. I cook. I clean. For working parents with kids... At the church slash school. Private. Up on the hill? Calvary Baptist?

CHARLIE

You're a nanny?

ANGIE

Personal chef... Little of this,
little of that... It's what I do
right now. I don't like to think
it's who I am...any more than being
a mother will be-one day.

CHARLIE

So...yes? Lunch? Tomorrow?

ANGIE

I do this. Put on my running
clothes KNOWING I don't feel
well... Take the kids to drop
off... Come home... Procrastination
Clean-

CHARLIE

Procrastination Clean?

ANGIE

That's where I'm cleaning the
crumbs and dealing with the
breakfast dishes with Robo nipping
at my heels-

CHARLIE

Robo? The dog?

ANGIE (V.O.)

Oh. My. Land. That smile,
Professor...

ANGIE

The robot. He's a vacuum. Anyway,
I'm cleaning, but really, I'm
thinking. About whether I should
run... Why? Because I don't wanna
get fat. I don't know what might
come up later in the week to keep
me from my run. But I don't feel
well...

CHARLIE

What does that have to do with us-
lunch, I mean?

ANGIE

You're regretting flirting with me
already, aren't you?

CHARLIE

Not at all. I just want to
understand what you're telling me.

ANGIE

Guilt. Rules. As far as I run from
them, they try to tell me what to
do. To go against what I know in my
heart. So, I know I don't feel
well, but Guilt tells me I should
run anyway. I really want to go to
lunch with you, Professor, but The
Rules say, No. Not appropriate.

CHARLIE

Okay...

ANGIE (V.O.)

Uh oh, Professor. What are you
thinking? Probably, Take your cart.
Farewell, Crazy Lady.

CHARLIE

Can I get your number now?

ANGIE (V.O.)

Slowly backing away from lunch...
Gimme your number so I can get out
of here and NEVER call.

ANGIE

Uh...sure...

CHARLIE

I'll call you tonight.

ANGIE

Okay...

CHARLIE

You can get to know me a little before we go out, so maybe lunch can feel a little more appropriate?

ANGIE

I love that idea. But isn't this so weird? Has this ever happened to you before?

An alarm on ANGIE's Apple watch starts. ANGIE silences it.

ANGIE

Officially late.

CHARLIE takes ANGIE's phone, then hands it back. ANGIE unlocks it and hands it back to CHARLIE.

CHARLIE

No one ever has been as concerned about a stranger or gone out of her way for me like you did today. But I think you do it all the time... Because you act like it's no big deal... That's my number. Charlie Austin, like the capital of Texas. When I call at, say, eight o'clock-

ANGIE

Seven?

CHARLIE

Seven. You'll know it's me.

ANGIE

Thank you.

6 EXT. 3:21 PM, LYNSEY'S HONDA ELITE (MOVING) - MAJOR EAST-WEST STREET IN THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS OF CHICAGO - DAY 6

Driving, ANGIE glances up to the rear view mirror and then back to the road ahead. ANGIE glances back up to the rear view mirror, smiles a little, then puts her eyes back on the road. ANGIE begins to laugh.

7 EXT. 3:26 PM, CALVARY BAPTIST'S SOUTHERN PARKING LOT - DAY 7

ANGIE jogs down the steps from the lot, which lead to a stretch of the circle drive used for drop off, then goes under an entryway covering supported by columns. As ANGIE reaches for the bell, JERLINA (Female, model material, 30's) opens a door from inside Calvary Baptist.

JERLINA

Hey, Ange!

ANGIE

Heeey, girl! Thank you for getting this door.

JERLINA

Of course! How ARE you?

ANGIE

Uh, well, my head is a little...all over the place today...but good. How are YOU, Jerlina?

8 EXT. CALVARY BAPTIST SOUTHERN PARKING LOT (MOVING) - DAY 8

ANNA is singing and lagging a little behind ANGIE, as BEAR walks hand-in-hand with ANGIE, skipping and saying something. They walk up the stairs to the south lot and get into a white Honda Pilot Elite. ANGIE backs out of the spot. As she drives forward, all three mouths move. ANGIE, ANNA, and BEAR speak indistinctly.

9 EXT. IN-FRONT-OF HARRIS HOUSE - DAY

9

BEAR, ANNA, and ANGIE, who's holding a reusable cold bag and a smaller, reusable bag, walk around either side of the Honda Pilot Elite, then up a walkway and up steps to a wrap-around porch. A storm door opens and an older woman (mid 50's to 60's) holds it open. BEAR, ANNA, and ANGIE disappear behind a door adorned with a hand-crafted, brass pineapple door knocker. The storm door drops closed gradually.

10 EXT. REVOLVING DOOR ENTRYWAY OF THE INN, A RESTAURANT BUILDING WITH AN OUTDOOR COURTYARD IN WHICH DOGS ARE APPARENTLY WELCOME - DAY

10

ANGIE enters the restaurant building.

11 INT. THE INN: RESTAURANT BUILDING WITH LOW-KEY DÉCOR, INDOOR SEATING ABOUT EVENLY DIVIDED BETWEEN TWO BARS, AND CLOSELY-SPACED TABLES. THE TABLES ARE COVERED WITH ANGULAR WHITE PLATES AND NAPKINS SECURED WITH SPLIT WINE CORKS - DAY

11

ANGIE walks over to a table where CHARLIE is already seated and puts a purse down on the nearest corner.

CHARLIE

Ah! THAT smile. Gorgeous. Hello, Angie.

ANGIE

Charlie, it's good to see you, too.

CHARLIE

No kids today?

ANGIE

Day off... You're not downtown, I see.

CHARLIE

Working from home.

CHARLIE turns the face of his wristwatch toward her, then slowly lowers that arm and stares at ANGIE.

ANGIE

How much time do we have,
Professor?

WAITRESS I

Would either of you like anything
other than water to drink?

ANGIE

What are you drinking?

CHARLIE

Just water.

ANGIE

Water for me, too, please and thank
you.

WAITRESS I

Sparkling or, still?

ANGIE

Um...

CHARLIE

This is-

ANGIE

No, I'll have sparkling. Spicy-
that's what I called it growing up.

WAITRESS I

Raspberry? Lemon?

ANGIE

Do you have lime?

WAITRESS I

Yes, we do!

ANGIE

Thank you.

WAITRESS I

Are you ready to order? Would you like an appetizer, while you decide?

CHARLIE

Can we have a moment, please?

WAITRESS I

I'll be right back to check on you.

ANGIE

Thanks.

CHARLIE

Are you as nervous for this date as I am?

ANGIE

Um...yes. You look great. And I... The only time I was MORE nervous was when I saw you on my phone last night.

CHARLIE reaches across the table, palm up. ANGIE hands him her phone.

CHARLIE

First name, The Professor. Last name, Charles, Charlie. Two swirly hearts. Pink.

WAITRESS I sets down a square napkin and, on top of that, a glass of sparkling water with a slice of lime inside.

ANGIE

I'm sorry. Can I get another one without any fruit, please?

WAITRESS I

Absolutely. Anything wrong?

ANGIE

No... Well, I don't want... I don't know where it's been. Not trying to be an asshole, but-

WAITRESS I

No. No. You're fine. I totally get it. I'll get you another one!

ANGIE

(to CHARLIE)

Sorry to be weird, but-

CHARLIE

No. I like it.

ANGIE

That's...something ELSE I like about you... I love how you keep taking my phone. So... BOSSY...

CHARLIE

I'm a control freak.

ANGIE

Control Freakery. OCD. They can be good things under the right circumstances, I think.

CHARLIE

Hmm...

ANGIE

Can I...take your picture-for my phone? No...don't take off your glasses... Thank you. Charlie. That's...something else I love...

CHARLIE

What? Photography?

ANGIE

Well, I enjoy that, too. More of a hobby than a calling. But...Charlie. I meant Charlie-your name. I love it.

CHARLIE
It's actually my nickname.

ANGIE
True.

CHARLIE
Can I tell you what I love?

ANGIE
Pretty please, with sugar on top.

CHARLIE
Your smile. It's...amazing.

ANGIE
Wow. Um, thank you.

WAITRESS I
Have you had a chance to look over
the menu? Or, should I come back?

ANGIE
Um...

CHARLIE
This place is known for comfort
food.

ANGIE
Because I'm black? Do you see me
that way?

CHARLIE
I see your smile in my dreams-

WAITRESS I
I'll come back.

CHARLIE
THAT'S how I see you.

ANGIE
I... I can be clumsy, too, I
guess...

ANGIE extends her arm across the table, palm up. CHARLIE
looks down at it, stares down, then taps his left

forefinger into ANGIE'S palm. He leans forward and looks back up into ANGIE'S face. CHARLIE stares.

ANGIE

You know how it's been so warm?
 So...I decided to open the
 windows... Like, Thinking SPRING
 CLEANING or, whatever... Anyway...
 I saw my neighbor-Caren and Pete...
 They spend lots of time in
 Arizona..? But when she was home
 this last time... She put out
 these-these, I guess...MOLE traps.
 She wanted me to check the traps,
 if they came back-to, like,
 ACTUALLY, take them out! And
 then...bring them to the lake...
 You're laughing! But she was
 SERIOUS!

CHARLIE

What did she want you to do?

ANGIE

Well, whatever it was, let's just
 get this straight: I wasn't about
 to do it. No moles. No traps. No
 lake drops! But... I
 was...UNFORTUNATE enough to look
 out into my backyard and see that
 one of those things was up-

CHARLIE

The trap got sprung? Was it dead?

ANGIE

No.

CHARLIE

Shit. Excuse me. What?

ANGIE

No, exactly! Double shit. You're
 laughing again.

ANGIE (V.O.)
ANOTHER thing I love, Professor.

ANGIE
So, but, I decided to go over. No.
Not to...do anything, but...just to
get a closer look... GRUESOME,
maybe-

CHARLIE
No, not gruesome.

ANGIE
Well... Either way... I did this.

ANGIE turns her hand over, dislodging CHARLIE'S finger. He
taps ANGIE'S middle finger's nail pad.

ANGIE
The open windows created a
draft...and after I opened the
door, it slammed closed on the tip.

CHARLIE
Oh my-

ANGIE
The no chip saved me. It's actually
a blessing, because it could have
broken my finger!

CHARLIE
WOULD have... Slit the nail
vertically, I see...

ANGIE
Looks like I smashed it in the car
door.

CHARLIE
Any door will do.

ANGIE
I guess... So-

CHARLIE
No more spring cleaning?

WAITRESS I
We ready?

CHARLIE'S hand closes around ANGIE'S.

CHARLIE
We are. Right?

ANGIE
Sure.

CHARLIE
Okay. How about a basket of
fries..? Okinawas... With chipotle?

ANGIE
Yeah, I'm good with hot.

CHARLIE
Not too hot, but-

ANGIE (V.O.)
Truly bossy, aren't we?

CHARLIE
-add some smoked sea salt. Thank
you.

WAITRESS I
Anything else?

ANGIE (V.O.)
Speechless. Can't you see he's
holding my hand?

CHARLIE
Stella okay? Yeah? Two then,
please.

WAITRESS I takes the menus away with her.

CHARLIE

So am I too much yet?

ANGIE

You? In control. That's you. Thumbs up.

CHARLIE

So you think you're too much for me?

ANGIE (V.O.)

Whoa, Professor!

ANGIE

Yeah, but maybe that's okay. I have a rare weekend off.

CHARLIE

Funny-how the two of us have jobs that call us in on weekends.

ANGIE

Well, yeah, but technically LYNSEY-the woman I work for... SHE...has the job that calls us BOTH in on TOO many weekends. She, um, sells timeshares.

CHARLIE

But she's off today.

ANGIE

Yeah, and actually-it makes me kind of admire her-

CHARLIE

You sound surprised.

ANGIE

Well... I-It's not fair, but I just had this impression of her, because she... She LOVES this job SO much-

CHARLIE

Is that it? That she...loves doing something-?-

ANGIE

I'm not gonna LIE... I just feel like a mom should not WANT to miss weekends with her kids!

CHARLIE

Because of Jesus? No. I'm asking a serious question.

ANGIE

Just... I now... My point is that, Seeing her today... She just decided to work from home. She wanted to do it herself.

CHARLIE

What happened?

ANGIE

Oh! Um, at the kids' school..?

CHARLIE

Yeah?

ANGIE

Where I take them to school and-

CHARLIE

Pick them up. Yeah, I remember: You were going to pick them up when we met. Or, was that another-?-

ANGIE (V.O.)

Good JOB, Professor!

ANGIE

No. That's right... Well, it's been a fiasco there lately. Fourteen kids out with a bug. It's been like Outbreak.

CHARLIE

Yeah?

ANGIE

YES. Terrible. Well, Lynsey just...
I don't know... And it was great to
see-realize-BE REMINDED-that we can
love LOTS of things...without,
like, being...NEGLIGENT. I HATE
that I was JUDGING-

CHARLIE

At least you admit it, and... What
is it? Repent.

ANGIE

I don't wanna be a joke because of
Jesus, now-

CHARLIE

I'm sorry. I thought... I can be
clumsy with HUMOR, too. Especially
when I'm trying THIS hard.

ANGIE (V.O.)

I forgive you, Professor. THIS
time.

CHARLIE

I think...it's great-

ANGIE

Charlie, you don't-

WAITRESS I

Okinawas with chipotle and smoked
sea salt. Aaaand your Stellas... I
hope it's okay that I brought them
together?

ANGIE

Perfect. Thank you!

WAITRESS I
Nooo problem. Out of the basket
okay?

CHARLIE
Yes.

WAITRESS I
Okay then! Well enjoy!

CHARLIE
Thanks. Listen, Angie... I HAVE-

ANGIE
You don't have to-

CHARLIE
Yes, I do: You're a very special
woman.

ANGIE
Thank you.

CHARLIE
I mean it. What you did for me.
That you can admit that-THAT does
not diminish you.

ANGIE (V.O.)
Wow. Is it too early?

ANGIE
I don't know what to say to that.

ANGIE (V.O.)
Is it too early to be in love with
you, Professor?

CHARLIE
We should eat. Ladies first.

12 INT. THE INN - DAY

12

CHARLIE

I have to take this. Excuse me.

As CHARLIE moves away from the table, a busser clears the beer bottles, motioning to the basket of fries.

ANGIE

No, I think we're still working on these. Thank you.

ANGIE pulls a cell phone out of a purse, laying it on its back. She picks it up.

LYNSEY

Hi, Angela. What's up?

ANGIE

I just wanted to check in... Um, I can barely hear you.

LYNSEY

This must be what love to the rescue feels like.

ANGIE

Why do you say that?

LYNSEY

Because I feel like crap. I feel like I'm...sediment...sinking to the bottom of the glass-

ANGIE

What?

LYNSEY

-forgotten. Unwanted.

ANGIE

Are the kids okay? I mean, aside from the flu?

LYNSEY

Well... They have to deal with the
flu AND they have to deal with me.

CHARLIE approaches the table. ANGIE mouths words to him,
pointing at her own phone. CHARLIE nods and sits down.
ANGIE gets up and moves away from the table.

13 INT. THE INN RESTAURANT (MOVING) - DAY

13

ANGIE

What do you mean? Lynsey, you're
their mother!

LYNSEY

So why have I been crying into the
sink as I wash dishes and telling
the kids not to look at me?

ANGIE

Oh, is that all? What you NEED to
do is get the ladder, and climb up
to that shelf thingy above the door
with a book, a blanket, and a beer.
You laugh. I'm not joking. You need
an adult time out!

LYNSEY

How do you do that? I'm actually
laughing out loud.

ANGIE

You're taking yourself too
seriously. We're not perfect.

LYNSEY

But you never climb up a ladder and
hide out.

ANGIE

How do you know?

LYNSEY

Aren't we supposed to be examples-
billboards for Jesus?

ANGIE

Perfect though?

LYNSEY

Well, we believe in God.

ANGIE

I could tell you something I saw on Facebook—that what we believe doesn't make us good... But I don't believe that. Believing Jesus is the Son of God makes you new! It changes your future and your identity! The old is gone, and you're a child of God! BUT...that doesn't make you perfect. HE is perfect! So...every once and awhile, WE need a timeout.

LYNSEY

What if I'm not MADE for this?

ANGIE

You were chosen. Get a beer-

LYNSEY

Calories.

ANGIE

Okay, get a blanket. Lock the door, and take a nap.

LYNSEY

Thank you.

ANGIE

Can I tell you something?

LYNSEY

Of course!

ANGIE

I'm on a date.

LYNSEY

What?!

ANGIE

With a very hot professor.

LYNSEY

Wow.

ANGIE

Yeah. So...

LYNSEY

Naptime for me. Wedding bells for you.

ANGIE

Correct.

LYNSEY

Angela, you are SO funny.

ANGIE

I know. Thank you. Okay.

LYNSEY

Bye.

ANGIE

Bye.

ANGIE heads back to the table, pushing her cell phone into her back jeans pocket.

CHARLIE

On a scale of one to ten,
how...APPROPRIATE would you say
lunch has been?

ANGIE

Oh my gosh!

CHARLIE

Never stop smiling, Angie.

ANGIE

Can't stop, won't stop.

CHARLIE

What do you think?

ANGIE

I think Lynsey, as crazy as it seems, is probably right.

CHARLIE

Is that who you were talking to?

ANGIE

Yeah...

CHARLIE

Is she okay?

ANGIE

Yeah... She was on my mind.

CHARLIE

You're special, like I said. Caring. And humble.

ANGIE

Don't build me up.

CHARLIE

I'm not. Just telling you what I see. Someone who can't help caring...

ANGIE

I like the fries. Not the kind of soul food I was expecting...

CHARLIE

We should do this again.

ANGIE

But lunch time is over for today, and you ARE supposed to be working from home, right?

CHARLIE

I have to jump on a conference call soon. Can I call you tonight?

ANGIE

Yes, please.

CHARLIE

You're off work today...and tomorrow?

ANGIE

Yes.

CHARLIE

And...do you have plans? Are you...orthodox? Is that a ridiculous question?

ANGIE

Yes! I don't know! Is that how you think about Christians?

CHARLIE

What do you mean?

ANGIE

Orthodox?! No. I will, however, be going to church, probably.

CHARLIE

I'm sorry-

ANGIE

No, I'M sorry... I'm being defensive or...INSECURE about my faith, I think. Want to come?

CHARLIE

Huh?

ANGIE

If you're off on Sunday, want to come to church with me? I mean, I don't wanna force you-

CHARLIE

It was MY idea!

ANGIE

Church? It-it WAS?

CHARLIE

Well not-

ANGIE

See? Look at you laughing at me!

CHARLIE

Not CHURCH... Going out on
Sunday...

ANGIE

Oh! Well, we can...

CHARLIE

Church is fine. What time?

ANGIE

Church is fine? It is? How do you
know? Don't answer that. The good
part is this: It'll be over after
an hour...and we can eat! Brunch!
You look shocked. I HATE church!

CHARLIE

What?

ANGIE

Okay. Wait. I hate SERMONS-the
LECTURING and PREACHING-

CHARLIE

And yet-

ANGIE

I like the worship.

CHARLIE

The...praying?

ANGIE

Um, the SINGING... About God... I love it that you're laughing again. No, honestly. I LOVE your smile, Professor.

CHARLIE

That's sexy.

ANGIE

Uh oh. What?

CHARLIE

When you call me Professor. Like it does something for you.

ANGIE

Uh oh. I'm blushing. You did it, Professor.

CHARLIE

I'm smiling.

ANGIE

You are. You don't normally.

CHARLIE

No. I don't think so. You don't really look at yourself, ya know?

ANGIE

True.

CHARLIE

But you make me laugh. Most people don't do that.

ANGIE

Good. I mean... I want you to laugh. But I'm glad-

CHARLIE

I told you. You're special.

ANGIE

-I make you do it. That I can make you laugh...

CHARLIE

And make me go to church?

ANGIE

Are you? That would be so weird, but in the BEST way.

CHARLIE

And I'll LIKE the singing? About...God?

ANGIE

I HOPE so. I do... And I don't hate ALL preaching. There's a pastor I listen to online. And I've started reading some of his books... But I don't think most Christians... I think he teaches what a lot of Christians say they believe...but he comes at it from upside down. That's the best way I can say it.

CHARLIE

I don't know what to say to any of that.

ANGIE

I'M saying... If you're not into church, Charlie, you could probably be into this guy.

CHARLIE

A wink. I'm into that... But what did your friend say?

ANGIE

Well... I mean... Do you want me to be honest?

CHARLIE

As opposed to-?-

ANGIE

Well, if I hadn't just had a beer with a couple of fries, I'd probably...cover up a bit more-what I say and don't say, I mean...

CHARLIE

Tell me.

ANGIE

Well, I told her that I was on a date with a hot professor, and SHE SAID-

CHARLIE

I'm more interested in what YOU said.

ANGIE

-that we would get married.

CHARLIE

What was it you said earlier? That she-

ANGIE

Maybe.

CHARLIE

-might be right..?

ANGIE

Yeah.

CHARLIE

Maybe, huh? So...

ANGIE

So.

CHARLIE

Does that mean...our date has been appropriate? You're smiling. Is that a yes?

ANGIE

A TEN on The Appropriate Scale...

14 EXT. 8:05 AM, ANGIE'S CAR (MOVING) - MAJOR EAST-WEST STREET
IN THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS OF CHICAGO - DAY

14

ANGIE (Mid-late 30's, with curly, natural hair) tilts her head, looking into the rear view mirror.

ANGIE

Rachey? Rachey?

RACHEL AUSTIN (FEMALE, BLACK/WHITE -
MIXED, 10 YEARS OLD)

Hm?

ANGIE

Did you pack a lunch?

RACHEL

Yes.

ANGIE

Do you have it with you? Is it in your backpack?

RACHEL

Yes.

ANGIE

Rachey, are you sure? I will NOT come back over here to buy you a sandwich and apple juice again, sweetheart.

RACHEL

I did, Momma. I PACKED it!

ANGIE

Do you have your s'well bottle?

JACKI AUSTIN (FEMALE, BLACK/WHITE -
MIXED, 5 YEARS OLD)

Nuh-uh. Rachel has the orange one.
That's Rhodes's!

ANGIE's head jerks around, and just as fast returns to face
the windshield.

RHODES AUSTIN (MALE, BLACK/WHITE -
MIXED, 8 YEARS OLD)

Rachey took it. She told me she
can't find hers, so she wants mine.

RACHEL

Rhodes said I could. I have the
orange one. Jacki has the blue one.

ANGIE

What happened to the PINK one?
Those things cost, like, TWENTY
BUCKS! Daddy said you kids couldn't
be trusted with these bottles! Oh
my GOODNESS!

ANGIE's cell phone buzzes in the cup holder, and ANGIE
angles it up to her, lips moving as she reads inaudibly.

LYNSEY

(TEXT to ANGIE)

LOL |This ASS sent me an email
because he's pissed that his refund
will go to his arrearage. LMAO!
Wonder how long it will be before I
get it. I could use it even if it's
not much.

ANGIE (V.O.)

Not NOW, Lynsey. My kids have lost
their doggone minds!

ANGIE
Is it at school?

RACHEL
I think so.

ANGIE
It needs to be FOUND. And it needs
to be in your BAG when I come to
this school TO-day. Do you
understand me?

RACHEL
Yes.

ANGIE
What's the answer?

RACHEL
Yes, ma'am.

ANGIE
Huh?

RACHEL
Yes, ma'am!

ANGIE
Correct. Do YOU have water,
Rhodesy?

RHODES
Yes, ma'am. Daddy got the old one
for me.

ANGIE
Oh he did? So he knows about this
whole thing? About the missing
bottle?

RACHEL, JACKI, AND RHODES

(together)

Uh huh!

RACHEL starts singing the bridge of the music playing
inside the gray Infiniti QX80.

ANGIE

Amen. That's right, girl.

ANGIE starts singing, too, turning the gray Infiniti QX80 onto the road that leads to the western and southern lots of Calvary Baptist.

15 EXT. 8:11 AM, IN-FRONT-OF THE NORTH ENTRANCE OF CALVARY BAPTIST - DAY

15

ANGIE stops the gray Infiniti QX80. PRINCIPAL NICOL (Female, Brunette, early 40's), DROP OFF HELPER II, DROP OFF HELPER III, AND DROP OFF HELPER IV come out of the northern doors, adjusting winter hats, gloves, and scarves. ANGIE throws the gray Infiniti QX80 into park. Her eyes go to the rear view. A long line of cars is queuing up behind them, including the Armada version of ANGIE's gray Infiniti. ANGIE hits the lock button on her door.

RACHEL

That's Lynsey behind us, Momma!
Momma, that's Lynsey's car!

RACHEL, RHODES, and JACKI unbuckle themselves and squirm to see out the back window of the gray Infiniti.

RHODES

Momma! It's Lynsey!

ANGIE

Kids, I am worshiping. Mrs. Harris is in her car. We are in ours. And right now, I don't care. Okay?

ANGIE starts singing again and clapping her hands. She shifts to Drive as the cars ahead of her start moving. DROP OFF HELPER III (Male, Hispanic, 13 years old) opens the back, passenger door.

ANGIE

I love you, guys! Have a great day
in the name of Jesus Christ!

DROP OFF HELPER III leans his face into the gray Infiniti.

DROP OFF HELPER III

Have a great day.

ANGIE

You, too, honey. Thank you!

PRINCIPAL NICOL waves. ANGIE waves, pulls forward a car length, and hits the breaks again. ANGIE holds up the hand sign with her right hand for I love you. RHODES holds up the hand sign, smiling. JACKI, frowning, waves. RACHEL smiles before going in through the north doors, which are being held by ADRIANNA LONGFELLOW, whose mouth is moving inaudibly. ANGIE rolls the front passenger window down.

ANGIE

What, Adrianna?

ADRIANNA LONGFELLOW

I see all of your people are finally feeling better!

ANGIE

Thank God! Literally!

ADRIANNA LONGFELLOW

Amen!

ANGIE

Amen!

ANGIE checks the rear view mirror before slowly driving around the east side of the building, past the raised southern lot, and out into the street toward the western lot. ANGIE parks the gray Infiniti in one of the spots marked out by yellow lines. A few minutes later another gray Infiniti, one trim level up, parks next to ANGIE. LYNSEY rolls down the passenger window. ANGIE rolls down the driver side window.

LYNSEY(EARLY TO MID 30'S)

No offense...but this is bullshit.

ANGIE

Uh oh.

LYNSEY

I'm still working. My weekends occur in the middle of the week, inside of quotation marks. And I still drive the same car as my nanny.

ANGIE

Okay. Number one, I am not ANYONE'S nanny-except for my husband's. Two, the only car I ever drove was the people I nannied for, so I've always had the same car as you. Technically.

LYNSEY

Okay, but I had to move out of my spacious house. Into a shit townhouse-

ANGIE

It's a beautiful townhouse. I never lived in an apartment that nice.

LYNSEY

And now YOUR house is ten times better than my townhouse! Better than my old, ACTUAL house! And you still nanny-just for your own kids.

ANGIE

You can't BABYSIT your own kids.

LYNSEY

My point is that while everything is going down in my life, my best friend's life is-

ANGIE

Depressing you, apparently... And making you very fucking unfriendly right now. I'm going home to sit on my couch and watch Fox News.

LYNSEY

Really?

ANGIE

You sound horrified. Should I go to Target instead?

ANGIE (V.O.)

Since that's all you believe I actually do... You don't even understand what it means that I'm a writer, do you, Lynsey?

LYNSEY

Ha! And spend more of Charlie's money? He's gonna kill you.

ANGIE (V.O.)

Not really, because I'm ACTUALLY going to do my job—cleaning the house and writing all my shit.

LYNSEY

Why do you even HAVE an office? You don't have a job.

ANGIE

I write, Lynsey.

LYNSEY

Do you wanna come over? I'll make us egg and toast.

ANGIE

Is that really how you wannna spend your day off? Cooking for your old nanny and being grumpy?

LYNSEY

I just can't believe everything. I just need to get through all of this.

ANGIE

I know.

LYNSEY

Come over and let me make you a
coffee?

ANGIE

Okay.

16 INT. AUSTIN HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

16

CHARLIE is loading the dishwasher. ANGIE puts three,
insulated lunch totes into one side of the refrigerator.

ANGIE

I love her, but... She's so
negative. Imagine my head's like-my
HEART'S like this room...with
shelves... After I talk to her
sometimes... Lately... It's like, I
have to go around that space in my
head and in my heart...and pick up
everything. Cause she's WRECKED me
inside. And I feel like I'm always
about to say that line out of
Pretty in Pink..?

CHARLIE

Which one?

ANGIE

Do you even know it?

CHARLIE

Maybe. I've seen it before, right?

ANGIE

Of course you have. I hope. I feel
like I need to just grab her by the
shoulders and say, How can I
believe in you, if you don't
believe in me? I don't think that's
exactly it, but basically...

CHARLIE

So, what's the problem?

ANGIE

She got divorced.

CHARLIE

Yeah...

ANGIE

And... Things started going well for me.

CHARLIE

That's a problem?

ANGIE

For some people. I mean, I don't want to say that. But... We got along better when I was just her nanny. Now she WANTS me to be a nanny. Like I don't have any value. Like... You are the only one who does anything. And...she doesn't even believe I'm a writer.

CHARLIE

Has she read any of your stuff?

ANGIE

No.

CHARLIE

Do you think she should?

ANGIE

I'm getting to the point where I don't even know if we should be friends. She's funny. But she's mean. And I don't like it. But...

CHARLIE

But?

ANGIE

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

CHARLIE

Why?

ANGIE

Because... I might get...mad.

CHARLIE

It's makes me a little angry-hearing how she's talking to you. I'm surprised. But...you guys are friends.

ANGIE

So?

CHARLIE

Maybe you should talk to her. Nothing to fear, but fear itself.

ANGIE

Is that true?

CHARLIE

Yeah. You have something new going on. And fear is the only thing that can keep you from enjoying it. Experiencing it with your friends...

ANGIE

But would that be MY fear? I don't know what I'm saying. It's like...SHE'S afraid. That I'm...MORE than she, um... More than she counted on...

CHARLIE

And you're afraid to confront her about that. I want you to know something: You're not valuable because of me. If anything, I'm valuable because of you. This home

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
is great, because of what you bring
to it. And to our kids...

ANGIE
I'm an enhancement...

CHARLIE
Yeah. I'm serious.

ANGIE
How so?

CHARLIE
I can't do what I do, if you don't
choose to do what you do. I'm not
saying that I'm not proud of myself
or, that I have no independent
value... I'm saying that you get
credit for you...AND FOR ME.

ANGIE
We're one. What's yours is mine
and-

CHARLIE
What's yours is mine.

ANGIE
Wait-

CHARLIE
It doesn't sound right, but it is.

ANGIE moves away from the refrigerator. CHARLIE closes the
dishwasher.

CHARLIE
And you're a great writer. I'm 800
pages into this last one.

ANGIE moves close to CHARLIE, placing her hands flat on his
chest and staring up at him. CHARLIE puts his hands on
ANGIE's hips.

CHARLIE

Tell her how you feel. Then the ball's in her court.

ANGIE

Yup.

CHARLIE

After all, she WAS the one who first correctly predicted we'd get married.

ANGIE

But I had already correctly predicted that I would fall in love. Had ALREADY fallen in love with you WAY too early to do so...

CHARLIE

She had an eye for truth way back when-more than a decade ago. So, she might know it when she hears it.

ANGIE

Yeah... I just don't want to fight.

CHARLIE

You don't have to fight. Your truth isn't an attack. Just listen for the right words. They'll come. It's all about where you're coming from. Come here.

CHARLIE's hands slide down to the backs of ANGIE's upper thighs, lifting her up, so her legs are around his waist. ANGIE wraps her arms around CHARLIE's neck.

RHODES

(yelling and out of sight)

Daddy, can you tuck me in?

CHARLIE

(to ANGIE)

I'd much rather tuck you in. You laugh. And you know what your smile does to me.

(to RHODES)

In a minute!

(to ANGIE)

Why don't you hop in the shower?

ANGIE

Yes. Will you join me? Of course you will.

CHARLIE

Of course I will.

ANGIE

Duh.

CHARLIE

I'll tuck our son in first.

ANGIE

And read him three bedtime stories.

CHARLIE

One-

ANGIE

Well, just in case you do what you always do-

CHARLIE

One.

ANGIE

-and let Rhodesy convince you-

RHODES

Daddy?

ANGIE

I'll just take my time.

CHARLIE

Good idea. Run a bath.

ANGIE

It takes a LOT of water to fill up that tub enough to run the jets.

CHARLIE

Exactly.

CHARLIE heads for the stairs with ANGIE in his arms.

CHARLIE

One story... Three stories...
Either way, the water will still be running by the time I get there.

ANGIE

True.

17 INT. AUSTIN HOUSE, UPSTAIRS MASTER BATHROOM - NIGHT

17

ANGIE is sitting on the ledge of the jetted tub, looking at her cell phone.

ANGIE

(TEXT to GILLIAN TERRY)

Even when you're obsessed with drinking whiskey with me in our "hot tub" (It's not a hot tub, honey) I love you.

GILLIAN TERRY (FEMALE, BRUNETTE, MID 30'S)

(TEXT to ANGIE)

I'm calling you right now. Do you have the whiskey? Suits on or off? Are we getting in the hot tub (finally)???

ANGIE taps a button, so GILLIAN's voice comes out the speaker.

GILLIAN

What are we doing?

ANGIE

You know you're always in with me,
don't you?

GILLIAN

Is this about breakfast the other
day? Can't we just drop it? Can't
we just stand in the sun of those
giardiniera scrambled eggs and
cheese? Of those grilled cottage
fries? That side of hollandaise?

ANGIE

No.

GILLIAN

She's your BEST friend-

ANGIE

Is she?

GILLIAN

What'd she do? I'll kick her ass,
Ange.

ANGIE

She's...like my father.

GILLIAN

Really?

ANGIE

Well, what I'm finally starting to
see is that, EVERYONE is.

GILLIAN

Wait, what? Even me?

ANGIE

I don't know. Charlie's bossy.

GILLIAN

But you like that.

ANGIE

Yeah, but... I'm beginning to see... Lynsey doesn't believe in me.

GILLIAN

Wow. I'm really...ACTUALLY sorry to hear that. She's no fan of mine. And I don't think we click, but-

ANGIE

My point is, I think she can only handle seeing me in one way.

GILLIAN

Okay. But you guys love each other.

ANGIE

I have to admit... Part of why you maybe feel left out around us, is that I am really DAZZLED by her.

GILLIAN

Opposites attract... They SHINE when we meet them. And sometimes we're too far apart, but before we realize it, we've gone too deep...

ANGIE

It's a fatal flaw of mine. Sometimes I just...attach myself to these women who...never really love me or-

GILLIAN

Look, I think Lynsey definitely LOVES you. You guys LOVE each other. The thing is sometimes I feel like I'm DISAPPEARING around you guys. I'm two things: Part of me wants to be with you guys. Part of me is just not going to stand around. I think maybe she's not

(MORE)

GILLIAN (CONT'D)

giving you what YOU need the way
sometimes I'm not getting what I
need...

ANGIE

I'm not okay with you being in my
shadow...

GILLIAN

Sometimes you guys need to stand in
the sun alone.

ANGIE

But I HAVE attached to people
before...in unrealistic ways. And
just...been in love with them-
awestruck, or something...

GILLIAN

Well, she's this bright, happy,
blonde-

ANGIE

Is she? IS she? Bright? Happy?
She's FUNNY. But... Anyway, I did
the same thing with Daniella...

GILLIAN

Aren't you guys tight?

ANGIE

I love her. But... I don't know...
Something is definitely wrong with
not... Not understanding who I am
on such a FUNDAMENTAL level... That
I write. I've been writing since I
was a kid. I've been writing for
years. Even when I wasn't ANY good
at it, I was a writer.

GILLIAN

It sounds like it's a teensy weensy
bit about your ego... I mean,
people don't always GET how
important it is to you. I

(MORE)

GILLIAN (CONT'D)

think...you sometimes act like it isn't.

ANGIE

I have to think about that. Because I don't really like how that sounds... But it might be true.

GILLIAN

You should talk to her. Face to face.

ANGIE

That's what Charlie said.

GILLIAN

He's the boss.

ANGIE

That's what she said.

GILLIAN

You know how it was when we were kids? That you might be tight with someone, one-on-one... But then, when other people came around, they might sit there... Right in-FRONT-of you...and whisper..? Like you weren't even there?

ANGIE

But that makes me a failure. To know what it feels like to be ostracized...and make you feel left out anyway! That makes me shit.

GILLIAN

You are not shit. You are BEST FRIENDS with Lynsey. And we're not The Golden Girls-

ANGIE

Charlie's Angels!

GILLIAN

Charlie's Angels... And that's fine. We haven't had time to cultivate-

ANGIE

Fuck that! WE are friends! And I have to do better, if it's me making you feel like that. I mean, honestly, I think you're insecure. And that's a spirit I'm praying off of you. Someone said that to me the other day-that I was insecure in my dealings with someone else... And it PISSED. ME. OFF. I mean you just called me egotistical! But it might be true. You have to consider that I'm right. BUT...if YOU'RE right, then I have to fix that shit. Because it's not okay!

GILLIAN

I know you love me, Ange.

ANGIE

Well, I do.

GILLIAN

We WILL do our whiskey thing.

ANGIE

Yeah...

GILLIAN

And hey: Don't be mad at me. Okay. Don't STAY mad at me. You know I'm not that girl you can call who will call the other girl a bitch and leave it at that. I have to tell you the truth.

ANGIE

Of course not. I don't want any Yes Men. I don't have any-I don't hang around any women like that.

GILLIAN

Okay. I can breathe now that I said
it. I love you. Good night.

ANGIE

I love you, too. Good night.

GILLIAN

Bye.

ANGIE

Bye.

ANGIE watches her phone disconnect. She sits the cell phone
down beside her and stares into the wall-length bathroom
mirror.

18 INT. MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

18

CHARLIE is stretched out on the bed, swiping his thumb over
a device. He looks up and smiles as ANGIE comes out of the
bathroom. He sits his glasses to one side.

ANGIE

Three stories?

CHARLIE

Four.

ANGIE

Not surprised.

CHARLIE

This really is more than a hobby.
Come here.

ANGIE moves toward the bed. CHARLIE gestures, and she
climbs up into his lap. They look at the device together.

CHARLIE

You're like...a photo blogger.
These are...INCREDIBLE.

ANGIE

Thank you. I think I somehow want to use this work to...illustrate my writing. None of the fantasy stuff, but maybe the more NORMAL stuff I write...

CHARLIE and ANGIE lean into each other for a series of lingering kisses. ANGIE leaves her hands on either side of CHARLIE's head.

CHARLIE

Who were you talking to?

ANGIE

Gillian. We didn't get to have a whiskey and toast to Saint Patty's... So, I called.

CHARLIE

Wanna have a whiskey with me?

ANGIE

Professor, there's nothing I'd like more.

CHARLIE

Are you okay?

ANGIE shakes her head and shrugs.

CHARLIE

You're a special woman, Angela Austin.

ANGIE

You always say that. Charlie Austin, as in the capital of Texas...

CHARLIE

You're good at everything you do. You just need to believe it.

ANGIE

Charlie, you're my husband-

CHARLIE

Angie, you got me to church. You got me listening to songs and even LECTURES-I'm serious... Lectures about GOD! We give money to churches and projects. I just read my son a book about why he should THANK God...for ME! That means-

ANGIE

But I live such a little life! And... Gillian just said to me that sometimes I don't even express that I AM a writer! That I LOVE-am MADE TO DO what I do..!

CHARLIE

Your little life saved mine... If there's anything I know...after all this time with you... God can do anything...WITH anything. And I believe that...because of you.

ANGIE

I don't know...

CHARLIE

You're listening to the wrong voices in your head.

ANGIE

Charlie... You DO know that life in God has nothing to do with...all that stuff? With charity? That none of that stuff makes God love us?

CHARLIE

Yeah. Because of you. Because of you I know that. You aren't what you do. Remember you said that? You aren't even Mom. You're Angela. And you can DO anything.

ANGIE
God's Plan or, Fate-

CHARLIE
With air quotes?

ANGIE
-THIS is why I met you. So, I can
have someone I can touch and see
and follow when I get lost.

CHARLIE
Let's run a bath.

19 INT. 2:15 PM, INSIDE AN AMERICAN MULTINATIONAL RETAILING
GROCERY STORE - DAY

19

ANGIE ties her cardigan around her waist, sitting a purse
in the front basket of a cart. ANGIE wipes the handles with
a wipe. MART EMPLOYEE II (Male, late 60's - early 70's)
hooks a thumb in ANGIE's direction.

ANGIE
Yes, sir?

MART EMPLOYEE II lays his hand on ANGIE's hand.

MART EMPLOYEE II
You should buckle your purse into
the front seat.

ANGIE
Oh, buckle it, eh? With the little
straps? I never thought of that.

MART EMPLOYEE II
I once watched, powerless, as a
young lady like yourself had her
purse snatched right out of this
thing! Right there in the parking
lot!

ANGIE
Are you a cop?

SHOPPER II (Male, 20's) and SHOPPER III (Female, 40's) look
around.

MART EMPLOYEE II

No, no, I-

ANGIE

I just wonder if this is something you learned on the job. You know, like, robbers hiding under the car to cut my achilles, or something... My DAD is a police officer.

MART EMPLOYEE II

Oh, no! I just don't want that to happen to you...

ANGIE clips the cart seat straps through her purse straps.

ANGIE

(laying her hand on MART EMPLOYEE II's hand)
You're adorable, sir. And I love that you put your hand on mine and stopped me to tell me-to warn me. Thank you.

MART EMPLOYEE II smiles, taking back his hand.

MART EMPLOYEE II

Well, you're very welcome. Have a good day now.

ANGIE

Yes, sir. You, too.

20 INT. RETAILING GROCERY STORE, CANNED GOODS & SOUPS AISLE
(MOVING) - DAY

20

ANGIE's pushing a cart down the aisle. Her mouth is moving as she speaks indistinctly. ANGIE runs a finger along the fronts of cans. She reaches for one, but it rolls over her fingers. Before it can hit the floor and dent, LIAM RAYMOND (Male, 30's, dimples) catches it. He hands it to ANGIE with a smile.

ANGIE (V.O.)

Oh. My. Land. Cannot breathe. The
Dimples.

LIAM nods, hesitates, and walks away. ANGIE stares after
him, rubbing the back of her neck. LIAM makes it to the end
of the aisle, hesitates, and turns back.

LIAM

Beef consommé? Is that what that
was? Is? What's the difference
between that and beef broth?

ANGIE

It's flavored differently...so
it's...smoother.

LIAM

Are you a chef?

ANGIE

Not at all. Are you?

LIAM

I like to cook. Curious, I guess...
There's-

ANGIE

Wikipedia...

LIAM

Google.

ANGIE

Yup.

LIAM

Anyway...

ANGIE

Have a good day!

LIAM

Yeah! You, too. Bye.

ANGIE

Yup.

LIAM

Okay... Do you need any more cans
down from there before I-?-

ANGIE

Nope. Thank you.

LIAM smiles big.

LIAM

You're welcome.

ANGIE (V.O.)

Dimples. Whoa. Will you leave this
aisle, please? I can't even
breathe.

ANGIE holds up the can.

ANGIE

Okay...

LIAM

Nice to meet you... I didn't meet
you. Liam. Liam Raymond.

ANGIE

Ange.

LIAM holds up a hand, smiles again, and walks away.

ANGIE (V.O.)

Breathe. Ange! Angela Married Woman
Austin, as in the capital of Texas!
Breathe. Get your Worcestershire!
CONSOMMÉ!

ANGIE drops the can into the cart, shakes a fist in the
air, laughs, and then covers her mouth. She fast-walks the
cart in the opposite direction from the direction that LIAM
has taken.

21 INT. GROCERY CANNED GOOD & SOUPS AISLE (MOVING) - DAY 21

ANGIE

(to the can in the cart)

Thank you for not denting...or
exploding. I think The Dimples did
enough damage to my senses, don't
you?

22 EXT. RETAILING GROCERY STORE PARKING LOT (MOVING) - DAY 22

ANGIE is pushing her cart, looking around and over her
shoulder, and speaking indistinctly to herself.

23 INT. RETAILING GROCERY STORE PARKING LOT, INSIDE A GRAY
INFINITI QX80 - DAY 23

ANGIE blows out a loud breath and shakes her head. She
laughs long and deeply. She shakes her head again. She
grins and checks her grin in the rear view mirror. As her
grin drops away, ANGIE digs in a purse with one hand. ANGIE
pulls out a cell phone.

GILLIAN

(out of the speaker)

What's up, girl?

ANGIE

GIRL!

GILLIAN

What's so funny?

ANGIE

Um... I just saw THE most... I
can't even tell you girl! The-

GILLIAN

What girl?

ANGIE

The DIMPLES on that man, girl!

GILLIAN

WHO?

ANGIE

There was a man...in the
store...who caught a can-

GILLIAN

Caught a what?

ANGIE

I dropped a can. He caught it.

GILLIAN

In the grocery store?

ANGIE

Yes.

GILLIAN

With his dimples...

ANGIE

Might as well have. The way he was
smiling at me... Too much!

GILLIAN

What-what..? Where are YOU
shopping? You keep finding the men.

ANGIE

I'm married. I was joking. But he
WAS FINE.

GILLIAN

Angie, I need some fine dimples in
my life.

ANGIE

Gillian, you have to get divorced
first.

GILLIAN

That's not what we do.

ANGIE

In my church, they encourage you to do THAT...BEFORE you find you some fine dimples. And with THAT, I agree.

GILLIAN

I'm starting to think Christians will be happy if we just put a good face on it. If they don't have to know about my dimples-

ANGIE

YOU'LL know. Let's drop it.

GILLIAN

I know it's a mess with me and Jordan... I don't know what to do.

ANGIE

I'll say this, and you know how I feel about the popular brand of Christianity... You know I've never been able to find a place where I really feel-outside of worship, which I like EVERYWHERE-like I'm being...GROWN. Being FED... But, that said, EVERYONE isn't that way! There are Christians who understand and can help...DEAL with real things. It just takes those who care... Aren't afraid... Who can just say: I believe in Jesus Christ...but I don't promise to make all the right decisions. And I won't judge YOU on making, possibly wrong decisions.

GILLIAN

I know that, Angie. I'd like to interrupt this LECTURE to find out: Do YOU need to get a divorce-?-

ANGIE

Noooo!

GILLIAN

-so YOU can look at dimples?

ANGIE

That's not even the same thing.
It's TOTALLY light-hearted.

GILLIAN

Sin is sin.

ANGIE

No...

GILLIAN

There's a ministry at my church
that counsels people about
relationships. They teach that a
man shouldn't even talk to a woman-
unless he's open and available to a
sexual relationship.

ANGIE

What about work?

GILLIAN

No... I mean, like... The SOCIAL,
POINTLESS ways we talk to men and
women, like...

ANGIE

Flirting.

GILLIAN

Okay, maybe I don't know what I'm
talking about...

ANGIE

Anyway, it was a joke. I'm over it.
I'm sitting in the grocery store
parking lot. At this point I feel
like I might go to hell if I catch
a glimpse of ANY dimples out here.
And I gotta go home now. So...

GILLIAN

You'll only go to hell, if you dream about him.

ANGIE

Why did you have to say that? You know my imagination is crazy.

GILLIAN

I don't know about you and your imagination. What I know about is my Theory of Spherical Gears. I think a man and a woman, ideally, are meant to touch and spin together in a multi-dimensional way. I think a lot of people, including Jordan and I, meet and get married, even though we only touch, like, finger to finger... Some people's relationships are like laced fingers. Some people meet puzzle pieces and align on multiple sides...somehow. Whatever... JORDAN AND I..? We point at each other. Sometimes we pinky swear we'll be good parents if God ever gives us a baby... That's...about all we can do. I-I...don't get happy when I see him anymore. He doesn't support my art. And I don't trust him any more than he trusts me. I think those are all the signs... Don't you?

ANGIE

Maybe... But why are you trying to drag ME into it?

GILLIAN

Because you said a cute guy was giving you hot flashes... That's how it starts. I know. I'm sure Lynsey does, too. Jordan didn't just jump on a girl, because they hadn't had cute, funny moments-like

(MORE)

GILLIAN (CONT'D)

the one you just had with Dimples
in the grocery store... I'm sure he
pushed his curly black hair out of
his gray eyes, and-

ANGIE

This...is going too far for me. I
have to go. Sorry... I'll talk to
you later, okay?

GILLIAN

Okay.

ANGIE

Bye.

ANGIE sighs deeply, dumping the cell phone into a purse.
She puts her hands on the wheel and looks out the driver
side window. She leans her forehead on the pane of glass.

24 INT. AUSTIN HOUSE, MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

24

ANGIE is sitting on the floor, in-front-of a dressed sleigh
bed and before a big screen TV. The sounds from the TV are
indistinct. ANGIE is speaking to a cell phone. CHARLIE's
voice comes out of the speaker.

ANGIE

I don't know... I was joking with
Gillian today, and she just...went
crazy!

CHARLIE

Tell me the joke.

ANGIE

Well... It wasn't a joke. It-it...
There was this person in the store.
And he made a big deal about
catching this can I almost dropped.

CHARLIE

I thought I was the one with
butterfingers...

ANGIE

Exactly! It's how I met YOU! And just because the dude was HANDSOME, Gillian was like, THAT'S a sin.

ANGIE points a finger at the TV screen, and then drops her hand down to her side.

CHARLIE

I don't understand.

ANGIE

Neither do I. Anyway. I don't want to talk about it. It was a can. You're rubbing off on me. I'm dropping things now.

CHARLIE

And Gillian thought it was a sin for him to help you? Did you shop with him? Have lunch? What am I missing?

ANGIE

Nothing.

25 EXT. RETAILING GROCERY STORE PARKING LOT (MOVING) - DAY 25

ANGIE (Hair straightened with highlights, dressed for 70-80 degree weather) is walking toward a sliding door entrance.

26 INT. INSIDE RETAILING GROCERY STORE'S BUSY ENTRYWAY (MOVING)- DAY 26

MART EMPLOYEE II waves at ANGIE as she crosses the threshold. ANGIE waves and smiles.

ANGIE

Hi.

27 INT. GROCERY STORE TRASH BAGS & LINERS AISLE - DAY 27

ANGIE stands, facing cardboard packaging. LIAM passes behind ANGIE, catching her attention. ANGIE double takes, then turns back to stare straight ahead. She reaches out toward a box of medium trash bags. Then she starts to leave the aisle without grabbing the box. ANGIE u-turns her cart. As she passes LIAM, headed out of the aisle, she grabs a

box of trash bags. LIAM looks up and freezes, staring at ANGIE. Then LIAM smiles.

LIAM

Beef stock... I remember you.

ANGIE nods and then smiles. She scoots by.

ANGIE

(sing song)

Beef stock.

28 INT. RETAILING GROCERY STORE, CHECK-OUT LINE (MOVING) - DAY 28

With her box of medium trash bags, ANGIE is stepping forward, toward the conveyor belt and clerk. SHOPPER IV (Male, 50's) smiles at ANGIE as he lays a separator behind his bunch of bananas.

ANGIE

(mouthing the words)

Thank you.

SHOPPER IV winks at ANGIE, looking her over. ANGIE looks away. She meets LIAM's eyes, where he is headed toward another conveyor belt in another check-out line. ANGIE smiles tightly, shaking her head, and looks away.

29 EXT. RETAILING GROCERY STORE PARKING LOT (MOVING) - DAY 29

ANGIE rushes to the gray Infiniti QX80. She clicks keys in her hand. There is the clicking sound of the doors unlocking. ANGIE swings into the front seat. She is breathing hard. ANGIE slams the door and throws a box of medium trash bags into the back seat. Pushing her fingers into her hair, ANGIE shakes her head. ANGIE buckles her seat-belt, checks her rear view and backs out of the parking spot.

30 INT. AUSTIN HOME, FAMILY ROOM - DAY

30

ANGIE is fluffing and rearranging couch cushions. CHARLIE is spraying a wall of windows and wiping them down.

CHARLIE

We have a release every Tuesday.

ANGIE

Okay, but... Um, I hate to tell them though. You know?

CHARLIE

That night doesn't work for us.

ANGIE

Right. I know. So...but... We like them right?

CHARLIE

They're fine. You're laughing, because you already know the answer.

ANGIE

Matt's cool.

CHARLIE

He's the pastor, too. And, I'm fine...not...hanging out with him all week.

ANGIE

Charlie!

CHARLIE

You snorted. It's true. Sunday's enough for me.

ANGIE

Okay, you're right. What day?

CHARLIE

Wednesdays should be fine-What?

ANGIE

The kids don't have homework that night. It's a great family night. You know?

CHARLIE

Why don't they have homework on Wednesdays?

ANGIE

Kids church. They want us to go, so...

CHARLIE

Hm...

ANGIE

No, I can't do church all week either, my love... Okay, so I'll look into it. What home groups they offer on Wednesdays-

CHARLIE

Do we HAVE to find another one?

ANGIE

No...

CHARLIE

But you want to?

ANGIE

I don't know. Can I just look into it? And see if we like any of the other groups?

CHARLIE

You mean the people?

ANGIE

I know. All of OUR friends run kids church, though. So... They don't do home groups, for the most part. Too much...

CHARLIE

It's ALL too much, if you ask me.

ANGIE

Okay, but can I-?-

CHARLIE

Yeah.

ANGIE turns away from the couch, steps up onto the coffee table and leans down to kiss CHARLIE. Cloth in one hand and spray bottle in the other, CHARLIE still places the tips of his fingers on ANGIE's cheeks as he lifts his chin to kiss her. CHARLIE wraps his arms around ANGIE's waist, and she wraps her arms around his neck. She lays a cheek on his hair.

ANGIE

(into CHARLIE's hair)

Thank you.

CHARLIE leans back, slowly loosening ANGIE's embrace around his neck. CHARLIE stares into ANGIE's face.

CHARLIE

Let's see if we can find something
that works better for us.

CHARLIE and ANGIE share a lingering kiss.

ANGIE

Okay.

CHARLIE and ANGIE share a lingering kiss.

CHARLIE

Okay.

ANGIE

Okay.

31 INT. ON THE PHONE - DAY

31

GILLIAN

(text to ANGIE and DANIELLA LEMONT)
Hey girls! It's been so long!
When's your spring break??

DANIELLA LEMONT (FEMALE, GREEK, EARLY
30'S)

(text to ANGIE and GILLIAN)
Spring break? For who?

ANGIE

(text to DANIELLA and GILLIAN)
I have no idea | You've been on my
mind G | We have to do breakfast
again soon

GILLIAN

(text to ANGIE and DANIELLA)
Yes! My house next week...wanna do
it then? (Egg in a frying pan
emoji, croissant emoji, slices of
bacon emoji, cup of coffee emoji)

DANIELLA

(text to ANGIE and GILLIAN)
I just looked it up. Finny goes on
spring break between April 14TH and
the 21ST. So, next week works.

ANGIE

(text to DANIELLA and GILLIAN)
Looked it up. Finley has the same
break as my people. I'm game.

GILLIAN

(text to ANGIE and DANIELLA)
Brunch? Say (two finger/peace sign
emoji) things you want to bring!

(MORE)

GILLIAN (CONT'D)

I'll make baked Parmesan hash
browns and salad with almonds,
oranges, and apples. (wink emoji).

ANGIE

(text to DANIELLA and GILLIAN)
Two?!

DANIELLA

(text to ANGIE and GILLIAN)
ikr?!

ANGIE

(text to DANIELLA and GILLIAN)
I'll bring the fixins for an
appropriate cocktail...and
pancakes. Mini, FANCY (okay/perfect
emoji) pancakes.

GILLIAN

(Text to ANGIE and DANIELLA)
lol | stop complaining!!

DANIELLA

(text to ANGIE and GILLIAN)
Not complaining. I'll bring brunch
eggs. And stuff for yogurt.

ANGIE

(text to DANIELLA and GILLIAN)
Yaaaaaaay! Yogurt bar (brown woman
high five emoji). (explosion emoji
and fist/check emoji) BOOM!!!

32 EXT. TERRY HOUSE, DRIVEWAY - DAY 32

ANGIE pulls her gray Infiniti QX80 in next to a black GMC Acadia. ANGIE gets out, closes the door, and approaches the garage door key pad. She lifts the cover and presses numbers into the keypad. The garage door opens.

33 INT. TERRY HOUSE, LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY 33

DANIELLA is pacing between laundry baskets with a cell phone to her ear. ANGIE lifts her shoulders, trying to be smaller.

ANGIE

(mouthing the words)
Sorry.

DANIELLA extends her left arm, moving toward ANGIE for a side hug.

DANIELLA

(mouthing the words)
It's Ruthie.

DANIELLA frowns. ANGIE frowns, too. ANGIE nods then shakes her head. DANIELLA nods, too, turning away from ANGIE.

34 INT. TERRY HOUSE (MOVING) - DAY 34

ANGIE walks out of the laundry room, through a hall archway, past a grand family room, and into a kitchen.

35 INT. TERRY HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY 35

GILLIAN is moving around a large kitchen island, arranging plates, glasses, serving utensils, food platters, and plastic food containers. She dumps something into a garbage can hidden in the kitchen island and looks up, as ANGIE gets close.

GILLIAN

Is my OCD showing? Hi.

ANGIE shrugs a reusable bag from her shoulder, sits it on the seat of one of the stools at the kitchen island, and moves over to side hug GILLIAN.

ANGIE

Nope. But if it did, I personally wouldn't mind. OCD is GREAT for events.

GILLIAN

How are you?

ANGIE unzips the reusable bag. GILLIAN shifts over, reaching in to pull the plastic and glass bottles out of the bag. She places them on the island counter.

ANGIE

Fine.

ANGIE hooks her thumb over her shoulder.

ANGIE

I just heard-

GILLIAN

Are WE okay?

ANGIE

Um... Yes. I'm here, right?

GILLIAN

I'm sorry. What were you saying?

DANIELLA sighs as she comes into the kitchen.

DANIELLA

Sorry, guys. Thank you for organizing everything, G. What can I do? Do we need to warm anything up?

GILLIAN

No. I think everything's ready!

ANGIE

I have to make the drinks.

GILLIAN

Do you have everything? I have glasses.

ANGIE

All we'll need is ice... Dani, what's going on?

DANIELLA pauses with a spatula under one oven-baked egg and sighs. DANIELLA scoops it out of the pie pan and onto a serving platter.

DANIELLA

Well... Gillian, I was talking to Ruthie-

GILLIAN

Ooooh... How IS she?

DANIELLA

Well, I was talking to her when-as Ange was coming in...

ANGIE

Is she okay?

DANIELLA

No. Not really.

ANGIE

What's going on? What happened?

DANIELLA

She's been having these awful dreams. Dead people everywhere-in vehicles in the snow... On beaches... She dreamed she was at a resort, and she had to help other parents collect their own dead kids from where they'd drowned...playing in the sand with their little buckets and shovels.

GILLIAN covers her mouth.

ANGIE

Lord Jesus. That's...

DANIELLA

She's thinking... She thinks she's going crazy, because she lost him.

GILLIAN

On his due date...

DANIELLA nods. ANGIE moves over to rub her back.

DANIELLA

She's questioning...EVERYTHING. She got a tarot card reading-

ANGIE

WHAT?!

DANIELLA

The woman told Ruthie that she could help her make contact with- with Brady.

GILLIAN

Did she?

ANGIE

What do you mean, DID she? Ruthie's son DIED.

GILLIAN

I KNOW that!

ANGIE

In a hospital. A YEAR ago.

DANIELLA

Angie, I know what you mean... But... Gillian-

GILLIAN

I know that people get tricked by this stuff! At their most vulnerable-

ANGIE

Exactly! So, Ruthie DIDN'T make contact with BRADY, her DEAD son!

GILLIAN

Why are you so-?-I thought we were good.

ANGIE

Yeah, but we've gotta stop pretending stuff like this is okay! I mean, if she...SPOKE to any-anything... It would have been a familiar spirit! BRADY...couldn't even speak!

ANGIE swipes at tears as DANIELLA moves in close to hug her with both arms.

DANIELLA

I think we're having a meeting of the minds, ladies.

GILLIAN shakes her head.

GILLIAN

Absolutely! We're on the same page, Angie! I just want to know what they told her.

ANGIE moves out of DANIELLA's arms to hug GILLIAN. GILLIAN keeps her arms at her sides at first. After GILLIAN returns ANGIE's embrace, ANGIE steps back. ANGIE wipes GILLIAN's tears away with her thumbs.

ANGIE

I'm sorry. We ALL love Ruthie. My feelings about this are not more important than yours.

DANIELLA

We're ALL upset. And she does believe (making air quotes) BRADY did...(making air quotes) make contact. He... The demon-whatever...said that he's safe. And

(MORE)

DANIELLA (CONT'D)

that...he has...a blue blanket.
Which...was described by...(making
air quotes) Brady... And, it's a
real blanket. A blanket Ruthie's
mother-in-law was knitting for
him...

ANGIE

Oh my gosh...

GILLIAN

Horrible. What did you say?

DANIELLA

Just...that Brady IS safe, even if
he doesn't have his blue blanket-
because he's with God... That
didn't go over well... She just
wants her son back. I told her, One
day you'll be with him. One day is
too far away to her because of this
loss.

GILLIAN

God is close to the
brokenhearted...

DANIELLA

But she doesn't want to hear that.
And I can't go around quoting the
Bible like a SCRIPT every time
someone tells me how they feel...
She doesn't even want Becca and
Benjamin to stay at Calvary-

ANGIE

Why?

DANIELLA

They teach that there is a loving
God.

GILLIAN

Wow. That's a pretty permanent decision.

DANIELLA

She's mourning.

GILLIAN

That's my point: She's giving up on God-as if she'll never be out of mourning... And that...will affect her kids.

ANGIE

We gotta pray. And be here for her.

DANIELLA

I agree.

36 INT. TERRY HOUSE, KITCEHN - DAY

36

ANGIE, GILLIAN, and DANIELLA are on stools around the kitchen island.

GILLIAN

I need to clean. Is anyone taking leftovers?

ANGIE

I will.

DANIELLA

No, thank you. I'm going to pop into the powder room. I'll help you clean up though.

ANGIE

Okay, you pop in. I think I'll pour one last round of Grapefruit Crush.

DANIELLA

You do that. I'll be right back.

DANIELLA heads toward the hall archway.

GILLIAN

I think you're still mad at me.

ANGIE

Well, honestly, I think you short-circuited the other day. And... Yes, it pissed me off. That...you were trying to act like I'm somewhere with Charlie that I'm not.

GILLIAN

All I can do is try to be myself.

ANGIE

What does that mean?

GILLIAN

Well... It means, I'm not always going to say what you want me to say.

ANGIE stands up, heading over to where the ingredients for the cocktail are arranged.

GILLIAN

Why are you rolling your eyes?

ANGIE

Because! You loooooove to tell me that you're not, um, a Yes Man! But I KNOW that. I've never claimed that.

GILLIAN

Okay... But you get mad at me for telling you what I see.

ANGIE

Yes! Because I don't see what you see! And I don't FEEL what you're trying to suggest-

GILLIAN

That's how it is when people cheat. It doesn't feel terrible. It feels good. And it's easy to explain. And to laugh about it. And pretend that the boundaries we're crossing aren't that serious... But the truth is, The worst mistakes happen gradually. You're rolling your eyes again.

ANGIE

You're my friend, Gillian, not my mistress. CHARLIE gets to boss me around, okay? Not you.

GILLIAN

I'm just...trying to express that flirtations are not just flirtations. Necessarily.

DANIELLA

What flirtations?

ANGIE shakes her head. She starts packing the ingredients back into her reusable bag.

DANIELLA

I thought you said you were making another round?

ANGIE

We've had enough. Let's, um, help clean up.

GILLIAN

And then...I have some things I want to share with you guys. Some things going on at church...and with Jordan and me.

DANIELLA

Okay! Sounds good.

DANIELLA looks over at ANGIE. ANGIE starts picking up plates and bringing them toward the sinks.

ANGIE
Dishwasher available?

37 INT. TERRY HOUSE, FAMILY ROOM - DAY

37

ANGIE, GILLIAN, and DANIELLA are sitting on the sectional. DANIELLA is resting a teacup on her knee, as she sits sidesaddle, legs folded to the side.

DANIELLA
So..? Is this...the way to divorce?
Or, the way out of it?

GILLIAN shrugs.

GILLIAN
Hell if I know. We started counseling with MEGHAN (Female, early 40's) and BREN VARGAS (Male, Hispanic/Latino, mid-late 30's) at our church.

DANIELLA
This is South Point Church?

GILLIAN
Yes. I was trying to tell Angie about it before I really knew what I was talking about... Meghan and Brennan teach about...HEDGES... It's basically... No one meets behind closed doors with anyone of the opposite sex-

DANIELLA
Wait. This is relationships? Like marriages, right?

GILLIAN
Yes. Right. There are no one-on-one dates with anyone of the opposite sex. They believe in open cell phones-

ANGIE

What's that?

GILLIAN

Um, so, Meghan checks...or, CAN check Bren's cell phone. And vice versa.

ANGIE

Does that sound right to you? ZERO trust?

GILLIAN

I think we don't always make the best decisions.

ANGIE

Like having open cell phones?

GILLIAN

Like, doing untrustworthy things. Husbands do that. Friends do that.

DANIELLA

So, they teach a class called Hedges?

GILLIAN

Um, it's their ministry. They counsel people and couples about relationships and proper boundaries.

DANIELLA

Do they teach anything else?

GILLIAN

Well, Angie thinks it's stupid, but along the same lines, They also believe in open emails, access to personal passwords-

DANIELLA

That you can just check those at any time, without asking..?

GILLIAN

Uh huh. Oh! And no one-on-one trips with the opposite sex. You're rolling your eyes again.

ANGIE

Because... Who doesn't know that?! Duh! Hey, Charlie, I'm going on a date with Dimples in the Dominican Republic. Oh my-

DANIELLA

Wait, what? Who's...Dimples?

ANGIE (V.O.)

DAMMIT, Angela! You really are a genius!

ANGIE

Is it like a study? Is there a book or something?

GILLIAN

Welllll... I AM reading someone new. I saw him on the Church channel one day, just randomly... His name is *Andrew Farley. I've never heard anything like him, and I-

ANGIE

I KNOW who that is! I listen to his sermons with Charlie and the babes!

GILLIAN

He's great. So, I started reading his book, Relaxing with God: The Neglected Spiritual Discipline-

DANIELLA

What a NAME!

GILLIAN

Yeah. And you know what made me MEMORIZE it? It set me free! I-I read books, and it, like, takes forever. I highlight. I take notes.

ANGIE

I highlight, too.

GILLIAN

Right?! I get tired... Books, even books I eventually LOVE, ALWAYS start out slow for me, till-

ANGIE

Spherical gears?

GILLIAN

Bingo! And then it clicks... Well, it clicked for me...when he started talking about how...every thought we have...doesn't necessarily belong to us... And that got me thinking. And I thought...about how many things I've tried to put in a box. Physical reactions that made me feel bad. Ashamed. Thoughts I had that I...didn't want anybody to know. So I put them in the box. Then they became secrets. But that box just started taking up so much space. This dark...blob that was spreading. INSIDE me! But if I could understand that even inappropriate physical responses...could be SENT...then I could talk to God about it. I could trust Him to help me. Because I didn't have to be ashamed. You know, like..? If someone is whispering awful things into your ear, you don't have to be ashamed. You don't have to keep what he said a secret. Or... And this is gonna sound awful...but if someone rapes you... And, you have a response to that... If you FEEL things...that don't make any sense-even to you... You can take it to God for His advice. And for-

ANGIE

Healing.

GILLIAN

Yes.

ANGIE

I have to get that book. It sounds amazing.

DANIELLA

It sounds like you're really getting a lot out of counseling. Is Jordan?

GILLIAN

Well, he's doing things that make me nervous.

ANGIE

Like what? Stuff like..?

GILLIAN

Stuff that makes me think he might be trying to...make me look bad.

DANIELLA

What for? You guys don't have kids.

GILLIAN

I'm pregnant.

DANIELLA

But you... You drank the-

ANGIE

Grapefruit...

DANIELLA

Crush...

GILLIAN

Okay. Yeah. I did. What?! Are you guys working for Jordan now? So what? It was ONE cocktail... I'm a few weeks!

DANIELLA

Does Jordan know?

GILLIAN

No.

ANGIE

Wow... So... You think he's trying to...make you look bad? And you think...he might get custody? When he finds out you're pregnant?

GILLIAN

I don't think he KNOWS... So I don't think he's doing any of this with, like...intentions of getting full CUSTODY or something...

ANGIE

Right...

DANIELLA

But you think he might? Get custody.

ANGIE

Now look who's rolling whose eyes...

GILLIAN

Because I think... He actually MIGHT get custody...when he finds out... Even after everything he did...

ANGIE

Listen. This is the devil talking right now. You're in COUNSELING, right? No reason to think-

GILLIAN

Actually, Angie... I HAVE to think about all of these things-

ANGIE

Why?

GILLIAN

-because getting counseling doesn't mean we won't get divorced anyway. And...I can't just trust a hope and a prayer that Jay won't want to fight me on this, if we do.

DANIELLA

What do YOU want?

GILLIAN

I don't know... Honestly... Not long ago, I wouldn't have known if I wanted to keep this baby... I didn't even know where I thought God stood on that... Angie, please keep your expressions to yourself!

DANIELLA

What were you going to say, Gillian?

GILLIAN

That, um, now I know. God says children are a reward. I don't know what for! I mean, what have Jay and I done to deserve a REWARD? From GOD? But that's what it says in the Bible.

ANGIE

So, you know where God stands. I'm glad. I'm also shocked. You're pregnant. You might be getting divorced. But, at least you have open cell phones... Don't try to frown. I can see you're already laughing, Gillian. This is no time for seriousness anyway.

GILLIAN

Nope. The sky is falling.

ANGIE

Exactly.

DANIELLA

You guys are so weird... Is it too early to tell if it's a boy or a girl?

GILLIAN

Six to eight more weeks...

DANIELLA

I just want to be happy for you, Gillian-

GILLIAN

You can be happy for me... I'm just thinking... I am going to keep this baby boy or girl... I don't want Jordan to be able to say anything to him or her about me when he's older...

ANGIE

Are going to tell him?

GILLIAN

It depends. I mean, I have to-at some point-

DANIELLA

Soon.

ANGIE

Yup.

GILLIAN

Not TOO soon. And... I'm thinking about saying we should take some time apart-

DANIELLA

A separation.

ANGIE

Smart-if you don't want him to know...

GILLIAN

I need time to think. I might need MORE time...

ANGIE

I want to agree with you, but... I mean... I think you know I love you like a sister... I don't have a sister-

GILLIAN

Neither do I.

ANGIE

It's why we fight, I think-

GILLIAN

Yup.

ANGIE

And I know you're especially now feeling all the feels, but... That doesn't mean it's right-not to tell Jay.

DANIELLA

It's a really tough decision, Gillian. But...

GILLIAN

I WILL tell him. I'll tell Jordan. But I HAVE to be smart.

ANGIE

You have to listen to God. THAT comes before this whole strategy, which...might be SMART, but...which might also be the exact WRONG thing to do. However it feels...

GILLIAN

You're God? That sounds like what you're trying to say. Trying to act like... I don't agree with that.

ANGIE

I'm being bossy. I just wanna make sure you don't think I approve.

GILLIAN

Well, good for you, Ange.

ANGIE

I think that's my responsibility.

GILLIAN

Well, remember how you were mad at ME? I think YOU sound self-righteous.

ANGIE

Okay, good! Get it off your chest! Quit pretending-I should say, HIDING BEHIND the fact that you're a sweet, benign hippy...about seventy-five percent of the time!

GILLIAN

I don't even know what you just said!

ANGIE

I'm saying that sometimes things get messy!

GILLIAN

YOU'RE telling ME that? Because I don't want to tell this man who is making my life HELL-

ANGIE

YOUR husband! YOU chose him! And you don't want HIM to be able to have a choice? You can just...SAY things about what you think I MIGHT do... And you don't want me to

(MORE)

ANGIE (CONT'D)

criticize...all this SHIT you're trying to do now? I'm sorry: I'm not the Christian who thinks you get to get out of things because they're messy. And I'm ALSO not the one that thinks--the one that IGNORES when a Christian judges how messy I am, but refuses to deal with the fact that MOST,REAL people never experience Jesus-like love and grace from the judgmental cult we're becoming! We're supposed to be a BANNER! A SIGN pointing to Jesus. But MOST of us are so focused on the words we use that we don't think about what we're saying anymore! Whether we even TOUCH anyone else...

GILLIAN

You're calling me a hypocrite.

ANGIE

You should be an editor.

GILLIAN

So... Yes?

ANGIE

Yes! If I'm a cheater. YOU'RE a liar! You're a fixer! You clean it all up, like you were complaining about the other day, but it's just...AWFUL underneath.

GILLIAN

See? That was a whole lot clearer... You think I don't know that? I didn't even know Jordan was cheating! Now I'm PREGNANT?!

DANIELLA

Has he ever hit you? I mean... I'm just wondering what I'm missing. I feel like...I've GOT to be missing something. Angie?! Why are you looking like that? What do you know that I don't?

ANGIE

NOTHING! I'm just...DREADING that there might be MORE.

GILLIAN

There isn't. Cheating and fighting and then, becoming pregnant with someone who feels like a handsome stranger... A stranger I don't even LIKE very much... That isn't enough for you, Daniella?

ANGIE

She didn't say that.

DANIELLA

Gillian... I was just trying... I just sense something-

GILLIAN

My unhappiness!

ANGIE

Either way, I'm here for you.

GILLIAN

I know.

ANGIE

You sound grim.

ANGIE and GILLIAN dissolve into snorting laughter as DANIELLA looks back and forth between the other two women.

38 INT. RETAILING GROCERY STORE, DELI COUNTER - DAY

38

ANGIE takes a paper ticket number from the ticket machine and swerves her cart away from the counter, leaving the cart's front basket within arm's reach. ANGIE does a quick pass along the glass display and comes back to her cart, crossing her arms. SHOPPER V (Female, 30s) grabs a ticket from the ticket machine.

SHOPPER V

Excuse me, can I scoot by you?

ANGIE

Sure. What number are you?

SHOPPER V

Um...forty-eight.

ANGIE

Okay...

SHOPPER V

Yeah, I don't think they're changing it.

ANGIE

Right?! It can't be on twenty-two-

SHOPPER V

No way! I don't have an hour to wait here on lunch meat and cheese, I can tell you that!

ANGIE backs up, looking around. She moves closer to the glass display counter.

ANGIE

Excuse me?

DELI COUNTER WORKER I

Yes, ma'am? Can I help you?

ANGIE

I just wanna know if you guys are actually on twenty-two or,-

DELI COUNTER WORKER I glances behind her and shakes her head.

DELI COUNTER WORKER I
 No ma'am. We fell behind earlier
 and haven't had the chance to
 change it. Probably closer to
 thirty something-

SHOPPER VI (Female, Black, 50's) holds up a ticket, waving
 it over her head.

SHOPPER VI
 Well we're up in the forties, so I
 HOPE we're closer to forty-two,
 which I have... And SHOULD be
 NEXT..!

ANGIE turns away from where DELI COUNTER WORKER I and DELI
 COUNTER WORKER II (Female, 50's) are speaking to SHOPPER VI
 indistinctly. ANGIE freezes as she turns and finds herself
 at the end of LIAM's empty shopping cart.

LIAM
 You look caught-like a deer in
 headlights.

ANGIE (V.O.)
 Angie? Yeah, you. Close your mouth.
 Now!

ANGIE
 Oh. Hi.

LIAM
 Angie.

ANGIE (V.O.)
 Breathe, Angie. Breathe. Remember:
 You're MARRIED!

ANGIE
 Oh my gosh! Um...

LIAM
 Liam. It's fine, if you don't
 remember me. Why would you remember
 everyone you meet in the grocery
 store?

ANGIE (V.O.)
I don't. But I remember YOU.

ANGIE
Why do you remember ME?

LIAM
How could I forget the woman who
taught me the difference between
consommé and stock?

SHOPPER VII (Female, dignified, white-haired, 60's to 70's)
& VIII (Female) glance over to stare at ANGIE and LIAM.
SHOPPER VII smiles knowingly in ANGIE's and LIAM's
direction. SHOPPER VIII glances from ANGIE's face, to her
hands, and away again.

ANGIE
Right. You're a chef. Are you one
of those folks who really buys the
ingredients after watching a high
speed cooking video? Or, do you
just like the Cooking Channel?

LIAM
Both.

ANGIE
And today's Deli Dinner day?

LIAM nods.

LIAM
Monte Cristo in 5 minutes-

ANGIE
Impossible.

LIAM
Possible. With turkey and
cranberry...

ANGIE
I like those every once and awhile.

LIAM

Bennigan's-

ANGIE

Right?! My brother LOVES-LOVED
their Monte Cristo sandwich!

LIAM

The American legend...which is now,
ACTUALLY a legend-

ANGIE

Since they no longer exist.

LIAM

No, they exist, just small scale...
But on to more important questions,
What number are YOU?

ANGIE

Forty-five. And...it STILL says
twenty-two up there on the board-

LIAM

Forty-seven. Maybe one day-

ANGIE

Maybe one day I'll get some ham and
cheese-

LIAM

For my charcuterie.

ANGIE

I just call it a meat and cheese
platter...with fancy cheese and
salami.

LIAM

I think we have to be careful.

ANGIE

Why is that?

LIAM

No, don't frown. I didn't mean to scare you... But I am afraid we might all lose a few years before they change that number up there...and before they call us-

DELI COUNTER WORKER II

Number forty. Number forty. What can I get for you?

LIAM

Uh-oh. She sounds stern.

ANGIE

Because I think she heard you.

LIAM

Your laughter at her expense... I'm totally fine with that.

DELI COUNTER WORKER I

Forty-two! Forty-two!

SHOPPER IX (FEMALE, FIT, TALL, WEARING
WORKOUT CLOTHES)

This is ridiculous! They've got TWO people back there for all these people..?! I don't have all DAY to shop!

SHOPPER IX checks her watch, impatiently rolls her cart forward and back, then turns away from the cart, hands gripping the purse straps over her shoulder. SHOPPER IX's ticket floats to the ground. ANGIE steps in front of SHOPPER IX, stopping her.

ANGIE

Here, take mine.

DELI COUNTER WORKER II

Forty-five? Forty-five!

ANGIE

I'M forty-five. Now, YOU'RE forty-five.

SHOPPER IX

You're giving me your..? You don't have to-

DELI COUNTER WORKER II

Forty-five.

DELI COUNTER WORKER I moves to update the customer ticket number on the board.

ANGIE

Go ahead! Before they call the next number! I'll take yours.

ANGIE bends to retrieve the paper ticket discarded by SHOPPER IX.

SHOPPER IX

I was FIFTY-SIX!

DELI COUNTER WORKER II

Forty-

SHOPPER IX turns toward the glass deli counter display, waving a customer ticket.

SHOPPER IX

I'm forty-five! Um, can I get the roast beef that's on sale..? Can I get that shaved? But not falling apart! One pound, please.

Three more workers join DELI COUNTER WORKER I & DELI COUNTER WORKER II, pulling on gloves and tying on aprons.

SHOPPER VI

Finally! They've got some help out here!

LIAM

That was...really nice.

LIAM stares at ANGIE, and she stares back, saying nothing.
ANGIE opens her mouth.

DELI COUNTER WORKER I

Forty-seven!

LIAM shows his ticket to ANGIE. Then LIAM lifts his ticket
in the air.

LIAM

Forty-seven.

ANGIE

Fifty-six.

LIAM

You're awesome.

LIAM holds up a hand, and ANGIE high fives him.

ANGIE

Have a great day.

LIAM

Get some Triscuits to go with your
salami and brie. Avocado-

ANGIE makes a loud, buzzing sound, interrupting LIAM's flow
of words.

ANGIE

Avocado never. It makes my glands
or something do very weird things.

LIAM

Weird BAD, I take it?

ANGIE

Yes.

DELI COUNTER WORKER I

Sir? What can I get for you?

ANGIE backs away, and LIAM moves closer to the glass deli counter display.

LIAM

Can I try your pâté please? Uh, the black pepper, thank you.

39 EXT. RETAIL GROCERY STORE, PARKING LOT - DAY 39

Looking left and right (searchingly), ANGIE walks through the lot, pushing a nearly empty cart. ANGIE pushes the cart into a corral, still looking left and right. Pulling out her car keys, ANGIE walks over to the gray Infiniti QX80. Looking left and right, ANGIE opens the front driver side door. ANGIE steps partway into the Infiniti, looks left and right again, then gets all the way in, closing the front driver side door.

40 EXT. ORGANIC, HIPPIY STORE, PARKING LOT - DAY 40

ANGIE looks left and right as she drops a plastic bag of groceries into the hatch of the gray Infiniti QX80. As the hatch closes, ANGIE turns her back on the Infiniti and scans the parking lot, with her hands on her hips. Shaking her head, ANGIE marches to the driver side and snatches the driver side door open.

41 INT. AUSTIN HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY 41

ANGIE comes to an abrupt standstill beside the northwestern end of the kitchen island, plastic grocery bag in one hand. CHARLIE moves away from the tumbler of scotch over which he's been leaning with both hands on the kitchen island. CHARLIE walks over to stand in-front-of ANGIE, who's staring at the floor. CHARLIE uses one finger to lift ANGIE's chin.

ANGIE

I forgot to bring the reusable bags.

ANGIE drops the bag on the floor. CHARLIE stares at ANGIE for a moment before lifting the bag up onto the kitchen island.

CHARLIE

Did something happen?

ANGIE looks up. She stares at CHARLIE. When CHARLIE visibly inhales, ANGIE walks around him. ANGIE takes a swig out of the tumbler and continues around the island-past the stove and convection oven, to the refrigerator. ANGIE opens the refrigerator.

ANGIE

Nope. What do you want for dinner?

CHARLIE

I wanna know what's going on with my wife.

ANGIE looks up, closing the refrigerator. CHARLIE moves closer, and ANGIE goes into CHARLIE's arms.

CHARLIE

My love... What happened?

ANGIE

Nothing... I think I'm just...hungry. Low blood sugar or something...

CHARLIE

Let's order in.

ANGIE

Yes.

CHARLIE

I'll pour you a glass of wine.

ANGIE

Do you mind if I take a shower?

CHARLIE

No. Absolutely not... You once said you can follow me when you're lost, Angela Austin... You can tell me anything... You know that? And I'll do my best to help you find your way.

ANGIE

I just need...to eat. I-I think I'm tired.

CHARLIE

I love you. Don't be startled by that... I don't even know if loving you was optional.

ANGIE

God I love you!

CHARLIE

I know... You can trust me, too. I expect you to trust me-with ANYTHING...

ANGIE

(whispering)

I do trust you, Charlie.

ANGIE (V.O.)

I don't trust myself.

ANGIE backs away from CHARLIE, disengaging from him to head upstairs.

CHARLIE

You look stunning, Angela Austin.

ANGIE pauses on the stairs, hand on the railing.

CHARLIE

That smile is a ghost of itself.

ANGIE

I'm gonna take a shower, honey. I'm sorry...

CHARLIE watches ANGIE going up the stairs, until she is out of sight. Then he turns, walking back to his abandoned drink, sliding his hand along the counter. With his back to the staircase, CHARLIE slugs a drink back. Tumbler in hand, CHARLIE looks over his shoulder toward the staircase. Then CHARLIE drops his head back on his shoulders. The sound of water running through the pipes begins, and CHARLIE takes another drink.

42 EXT. ORGANIC, HIPPIY STORE, PARKING LOT - DAY

42

ANGIE is lugging reusable bags without a shopping cart, as she speaks into a cell phone held between her face and shoulder.

ANGIE

No, I'm driving Charlie's car today. He's getting the SUV detailed. For my BIRTHDAY! I don't WANT anything else!

GILLIAN

(over the phone)

So you have the Q70 then... He took OFF for that? Must be nice!

ANGIE

It IS! How are you?

(whispering)

How is the BA-BY?

GILLIAN

Well... I don't get to hear the heartbeat for a few more weeks-at thirteen or fourteen weeks... But... I don't know.

ANGIE

Okay, well, I want to see you. Can we meet? I'll come to where you are-

GILLIAN

I think... I don't want anybody involved in this any further-

ANGIE

What?!

GILLIAN

-when I don't know what I'm doing... You've said your piece, and I respect that...

ANGIE

Uh oh...

GILLIAN

I'm not judging- I'm not PUNISHING you... I just have to keep all the lines straight... Ya know? And if I'm gonna end up by myself-

ANGIE

Gillian! You are NOT alone!

GILLIAN

In some ways, Yes. In some ways, Not.

ANGIE slows down near the trunk of her car, setting the reusable bags and a purse at her feet.

ANGIE

What do you mean?

GILLIAN

I mean, LITERALLY, I have to do EVERYTHING-HAVE the baby, RAISE the baby, WORK..! And... I have to deal with Jordan! You can't do ANY of that for me.

ANGIE

I can do it WITH you!

GILLIAN

And to the extent you can, you will! Angie, I have to FINISH growing up!

ANGIE

Oh man!

GILLIAN

I know! It sucks!

ANGIE

I thought counseling was helping!

GILLIAN

It's helping ME!

ANGIE

You're not pulling a Ruthie on me,
are you?

GILLIAN

Don't say that!

ANGIE

But do you believe in GOD anymore?

GILLIAN

Yes! But what does that mean?! I
don't believe in getting cheated
on! If I believe that and
Jay...OBVIOUSLY doesn't..?

ANGIE

He believes in God, G-

GILLIAN

But does he believe in ME? In US?
So... I'm not God. I don't get to
control...THIS. THIS is REALITY
right now! And I have to deal with
it. I believe. He believes. But
this is a mess that only GOD can
fix. Because I don't see the way.

ANGIE

God over it all. A way out of no
way, right?

GILLIAN

Amen.

ANGIE

Okay. I gotta go.

GILLIAN

Bye.

ANGIE

Bye, girl. I love you.

GILLIAN

I love you, too.

ANGIE pushes a cell phone into the back pocket of her jeans and bends down to retrieve the reusable bags. ANGIE throws them onto her shoulders and straightens. ANGIE freezes, staring back at LIAM who is watching her. Finally, ANGIE turns her back on LIAM and opens the hatch of the gray Infiniti QX80.

LIAM

(to her back)

Angie. Hi. Let me help you with those.

ANGIE turns to watch LIAM load them.

LIAM

Painting?

ANGIE

No. I like to store our tarp here, though.

LIAM

Makes sense.

ANGIE

Duh.

LIAM

How did your charcuterie turn out?

ANGIE

Oh yeah! Delicious. Perfect. Your pâté?

LIAM
You remember!

ANGIE
How could I forget...pâté?

LIAM
Clearly, you can't-

ANGIE
Forget...pâté.

LIAM
I was beginning to think you were
avoiding me.

ANGIE turns away from LIAM, toward the hatch, to pull the hatch to the gray Infiniti QX80 closed. ANGIE turns back toward LIAM.

ANGIE (V.O.)
Um... Mind blown.

ANGIE
Uh...

LIAM
Wait. Did I scare you? I'm not a
serial killer-

ANGIE (V.O.)
Hell yeah! And I scare me! My heart
pounding out of my CHEST scares me!

ANGIE
No. I'm not avoiding you. I'm uh-

ANGIE (V.O.)
Pre pick up shopping at an earlier
time than I used to... And, I'm
dressed up... In case I see you...

ANGIE
-ya know? Doing what I do!

LIAM

Well... It's nice to see you. You
look really pretty with your hair
like this.

LIAM reaches out a hand and feathers his fingers through
ANGIE's straightened hair.

ANGIE

Okay, I have to go.

LIAM

Nice to see you again.

ANGIE

Uh huh. 'kay. Bye. Liam.

ANGIE walks around to the driver side of the car. LIAM
follows. When ANGIE climbs in, LIAM takes hold of the front
driver side door.

LIAM

Angie.

ANGIE starts the car, and LIAM closes the door.

LIAM

(indistinctly, through the driver side window glass)
Bye.

ANGIE

(indistinctly)
Bye.

43 EXT. ORGANIC, HIPPIY STORE - ANGIE'S CAR (MOVING) -PARKING
LOT - DAY

ANGIE backs the Infiniti out of the spot. LIAM steps into
the empty parking spot and watches ANGIE leave.

44 INT. STACEY HOUSE, GREAT ROOM - DAY

44

SUSAN STACEY (Female, early 50's, petite, pretty) and several other women with open bibles, pens, pencils, and notebooks, including ANGIE, are in-front-of the fireplace, in various states of sprawl-on the floor, in recliners, and across a sectional.

ANGIE

Well, I know that...but I feel like I'm... I struggle to hear the Holy Spirit.

BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANT(FEMALE, TALL, AMAZONIAN)

But that's... We know that's not true, right?

ANGIE

We do?

Women laugh, including BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANT.

ANGIE

I'm not trying to be funny-

BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANT

No. No, I know you aren't. To answer your question, Yes! We can know that, because we are children of God, and we DO hear from God! The letter Paul wrote to the Romans tells us, For those who are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons-the CHILDREN-of God. So we KNOW, right-?-that we are DEFINITELY hearing from God.

ANGIE

Okay...so...I guess I mean...I'm trying to...UNDERSTAND when I'm hearing from God... Because, I don't know about you, but there's all kinds of voices in my head-

BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANT

And we have to identify those.
Where they're coming from-

SUSAN

You mean, like GOD...or, the devil?

BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANT

Or, ourselves... Trauma from our
lives can...SPEAK... And that's an
important realization we all need
to make, but we're really going
over-time-wise.

SUSAN

Okay. Will someone close us in
prayer?

LANDON AREVALO (FEMALE, HISPANIC, LATE
40'S)

I will! God... Thank You for
everyone coming and everyone being
here. Together. To talk about God.
To talk about You, Father, and Your
Son, and the Spirit of God in and
with us... To help us realize that
we can hear you. Every day. Thank
You for helping us figure it all
out as You quiet the evil voices
that clamor for our attention-the
voices that try to distract us. We
love You. But You love us more. You
loved us FIRST. Amen.

ALL

Amen.

SUSAN

Well, thank you, ladies, for
coming! Thank you again, MIZ
Arevalo, for closing us in
prayer... Landon, that was great.
Feel free to linger. There's more
quiche-I think...one vegetarian...
One with bacon... And my baked
French Toast. And coffee. Take it
off my hands, ladies. Please!

ANGIE grabs a purse and drops a cell phone into it. ANGIE hugs the women nearest to her and heads toward the kitchen. SUSAN steps in-front-of ANGIE.

SUSAN

You NEED this fellowship. This is a very special group of women.

ANGIE

I'm clearing my table. We're not even sure we'll stick with home group-

SUSAN

Why?!

ANGIE

You're scandalized, but... It just has to work for my family.

SUSAN

Forsaking fellowship-

ANGIE

I SEE Christians, Susan, and we don't PRAY every time we hang out! They're among the PEOPLE I hang around every single day. I'm just-

SUSAN

What?

ANGIE

I'm not Catholic. Don't expect a confession.

SUSAN

I'm not.

ANGIE

Okay... Sorry...

SUSAN

It's okay. Forgiven from the east to the west.

ANGIE

Thank you.

SUSAN takes hold of ANGIE's upper arm.

SUSAN

I just want you to know I'm here for you. However you need me to be... I feel like I never see you anymore... But if you're clearing the table-

ANGIE

I am... Listen... I'm not one of these women...who asks me whether I've considered

(air quoting)

the fact that Christians will be turned off my message and not share it with others... How do they know? And as a matter of fact, I DO respect non-conformity in Christendom!

SUSAN

You could have said that DURING Bible Study, ya know? And may I ask you, Why?

ANGIE

Because it reminds us that performances like we're on a stage don't keep us in God's good graces-His GRACE.

SUSAN

Do we make..? Is my home a place where you feel judged? You think we?-I LOVE your writing-!-

ANGIE

No, Susan. Susan. That's-I'm saying... I OFTEN feel like... I feel like I go to church for people to build up my doubt about God...and about ME...

SUSAN

Oh, Ange! I'm so SORRY!

ANGIE shakes her head.

ANGIE

It's not you. You're great. But this is where I'm at right now. And I'm gonna-I HAVE to be honest about it. Even if it's hard...

SUSAN steps in and hugs ANGIE hard.

SUSAN

Well... You're always welcome. I'm here.

BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANT

Everything okay?

SUSAN

Perfect!

ANGIE

Yup... See you later, Susan.

SUSAN

Take care, girl!

ANGIE heads toward the front door, slips on dock shoes, and opens the door. ANGIE closes the door behind her. SUSAN opens the front door to watch ANGIE get into the gray Infiniti QX80 and drive away. SUSAN withdraws into the house and closes the door.

45 EXT. ORGANIC, HIPPIY STORE, PARKING LOT [ANGIE'S DREAM] - DAY

45

ANGIE lifts the lid of the Infiniti Q70's trunk, her bags hovering over the empty darkness inside.

LIAM

I'm so happy to see you.

ANGIE
I can tell. You're actually
glowing.

LIAM
Can I..?

LIAM moves closer, taking the reusable bags from ANGIE's hands.

LIAM
I was beginning to think you were
avoiding me.

46 INT. AUSTIN HOUSE, FAMILY ROOM - DAY

46

ANGIE startles awake, where she's fallen asleep on the couch. A television is blaring news. ANGIE picks up a remote and mutes the television. ANGIE shakes her head and rubs her temples. Curling back up with a sigh, ANGIE crosses her arms and sinks down lower into the cushions. Her eyes stare wide.

47 EXT. ORGANIC HIPPIY STORE, PARKING LOT [DREAM] - DAY

47

LIAM walks with ANGIE to a very old, bright red Honda Pilot. ANGIE shakes her head as LIAM takes reusable bags from her hands and opens the hatch.

LIAM
I was beginning to think you were
avoiding me.

ANGIE
Did you miss me?

48 INT. AUSTIN HOUSE, MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

48

ANGIE startles awake, covers her mouth, and sits up in bed. ANGIE pushes her fingers into her hair. CHARLIE turns over, sitting up to wrap his arms around ANGIE. He kisses her hair and lays back down, taking her with him.

49 EXT. ORGANIC, HIPPIY STORE, PARKING LOT [DREAM] - DAY 49

LIAM closes the hatch of a white Honda Pilot Elite. ANGIE glances away from LIAM's stare to see LYNSEY watching them in the rear view mirror. Then ANGIE looks back up at LIAM.

LIAM

I was beginning to think you were avoiding me.

ANGIE

Did you miss me?

LIAM

Yes. Very much.

50 EXT. ORGANIC, HIPPIY STORE, PARKING LOT - DAY [DREAM] 50

LIAM

I was beginning to think you were avoiding me.

ANGIE

Did you miss me?

LIAM leans in toward ANGIE. They kiss.

51 INT. AUSTIN HOUSE, FOYER - DAY [DREAM] 51

LIAM knocks on the chiseled glass surrounding the front door. Rainbows slide over ANGIE's figure as she slowly walks to the door, turns the knob, and opens the door to LIAM.

LIAM

Hi. May I--?

ANGIE

Liam?

LIAM steps forward, his hand going to the frame of the door. ANGIE leans forward, looking over his shoulder, eyes darting left and right. LIAM leans forward, too, until his lips touch ANGIE's. LIAM pulls away, and ANGIE stares up at him, trembling. Slowly, LIAM wraps one arm around ANGIE's waist and steps in to ANGIE, slowly urging her body back into the AUSTIN HOUSE.

52 INT. AUSTIN HOUSE, MASTER BATH - DAY

52

ANGIE stares into the wall-length mirror above the counter and double sinks. Still staring, ANGIE takes a deep breath and blows it out her cheeks. ANGIE leaves the bathroom abruptly.

53 INT. AREVALO HOUSE, GREAT ROOM - NIGHT

53

CHARLIE and ANGIE enter the house, shaking hands and hugging people gathered in the foyer.

LUKE AREVALO (MALE, HISPANIC, LATE
40'S)

Come in, come in! Let's get
started, guys!

LANDON AREVALO peeks her head out from the kitchen area, leaning over at the waist.

LANDON

Hey, everybody! There's pizza! And
EGG ROLLS! Fried macarooni. Fruit!
And MY FAVORITE... MEATBALLS! Make
a plate! Lucas will pray and get us
started! Get everything underway!
Welcome to home group, everybody!
Luke?

LUKE

Thanks, honey. Um... Just while
everyone's coming in and getting
settled... Or... Do we have any
newcomers? Okay... Just keep in
mind, we work in-Oh! We DO have
newcomers, don't we?

CHARLIE

Not to church or home group-

ANGIE

We switched nights.

LUKE

Okay-

LANDON

Hey, Ange! Guys, Angie and I do Bible Study together, too. Hi, Charlie!

LUKE

Yeah, welcome, guys! Like I was saying, We'll take time to greet neighbors and such. And there'll be MORE time for fellowship after... So, in whatever stage we are, Can we just take a minute to bow our heads? God, thank You for our home, our church, our friends... Holy Spirit, come. Be with us, and touch our lips when we talk about Your Word. In Your name, Jesus Christ, thank You. Amen.

ALL

Amen!

ANGIE touches CHARLIE's hand, tilting her head toward the kitchen island. CHARLIE rubs ANGIE's lower back in circles and moves away toward the Family Room.

LUKE

Have a seat, everybody. We'll go around the room, and then I have something out of God's Word to share with you. I think it will resonate with...

LUKE goes on, but his words become indistinct as ANGIE takes a small plate, fork, and napkin. ANGIE's hand hovers over a tray of fruit and cheese.

KELLI RAYMOND (Female, pretty, late 20's-early 30's) elbows ANGIE.

KELLI

Yes! They outdo themselves every week!

ANGIE

This is NOT the reason we switched nights, I promise! We're not here for the food!

KELLI

You're so funny!

ANGIE

I didn't even know Landon and her hubby ran this...

KELLI

Did you attend a small group before this one?

ANGIE

We did. But the time wasn't working for us. It took us a minute to find a babysitter for Wednesday nights.

KELLI

But you do Bible Study with Landon, right? At Susan's house in Lansing? I've always wanted to go, but with the boys-

ANGIE

Yeah, it's so hard sometimes to find time to do things when we have babies to juggle... It's a season, honey. And seasons pass. Sometimes we miss them a little. The Before We Had Kids Season... And even The Little People Season... I actually haven't been to the study for awhile and don't know when I'll be back...

KELLI

With two boys-one in diapers, one
potty-training-

ANGIE

Goodness!

KELLI

I know right?! I don't know when
life will be back to normal!

ANGIE touches KELLI's arm and puts a handful of grapes onto
a plate.

KELLI

Honey! Come over real quick.

ANGIE pops a piece of sliced cheese into her mouth.

LUKE

So I was thinking about that-that
we have the right to do things, but
that they might not be beneficial
or good for us...

LUKE's words become indistinct again.

KELLI

Let me introduce you. Angie, right?

Nodding, ANGIE turns toward KELLI more fully and freezes.
LIAM is staring at ANGIE as KELLI puts her arm around his
waist.

KELLI

Honey, this hilarious and gorgeous
woman has been encouraging me and
cracking me up. She and her husband
just switched to OUR home group.
Angie... This is my husband, Liam.

LIAM shakes his head. ANGIE nods back at him.

ANGIE

Hi. I better go...sit down...
Charlie's alone.

LIAM nudges KELLI along the food line when KELLI opens her mouth. ANGIE scoots by them, keeping her eyes down.

CHARLIE looks up from the couch where he's sitting as ANGIE approaches and extends his hand to her. Next to CHARLIE on the couch, SARA (Female, Heavyset, Homely, 30's) glances at CHARLIE and then at ANGIE. SARA pokes the man next to her and whispers in his ear. The man next to SARA glances up and grunts a little, scooting further over. SARA smiles up at ANGIE as ANGIE takes CHARLIE's hand. ANGIE stares at the floor, letting CHARLIE pull her toward him. ANGIE slides down next to CHARLIE, leaning tightly into him. CHARLIE wraps his arms tightly around ANGIE and puts his chin on the top of her head. ANGIE closes her eyes, blowing out a breath where she's pushing her face into CHARLIE's neck. CHARLIE keeps his eyes on LUKE.

LUKE

(standing in the center of a group circle, gesturing with his hands)

We don't have to go around the circle-just... If you can think of a time-of something that happened... Something you did-
REALIZED YOU COULD DO...but shouldn't... This is not...pointing fingers, guys. At yourself or any-
Yeah, Sara!

LUKE points at SARA, then holds up his hands, flattened, like his palms are touching an invisible wall.

LUKE

Before we share... I just wanna be sure we all understand: We're not pointing fingers at ourselves...or anyone else. We LEARN, guys! We start to UNDERSTAND and SEE what God's quietly saying to us! And we

(turning his body abruptly, from facing one arc in the group circle to the other arc of the group circle)

shift! We change our minds!

LUKE points at his head.

THAT'S metanoia—the Greek
transliteration for repentance...

ANGIE lifts her head to look at LUKE. CHARLIE loosens his arms to look down at ANGIE. Then CHARLIE looks back up at LUKE.

LUKE

We don't have to keep sliding down.
We can climb up. We can swim back
to shore. Like the prodigal son, we
can go back home.

(quietly)

We can stop talking about it and
stop planting thoughts and sewing
seeds for regret... We can stop
whipping ourselves... We can stop
calling, if it's a bad idea. We can
delete that number, guys. Okay...

(pointing)

Sara!

SARA

I had to stop...talking about being
sick. I mean, I had to stop
expecting people to understand and
needing them to hear about my
hospital visits and my pain.

LUKE

You have every right to talk about
all of those things. But you didn't
find it profitable?

SARA

There are other things...that I
wasn't talking about, that I wasn't
DOING... For ME

(touching her chest)

I needed to do what it says in the Bible...and focus on good things...LOVELY things... I need to pray for others...and find the reasons every single day to praise Him.

LUKE

Amen. Has that been better for you?

SARA

I really think so.

LUKE

Yeah, Marsha Gae?

MARSHA GAE (FEMALE, GLASSES, 50'S OR 60'S)

I find that, like Sara, when life forces me... When I have to do it anyway... I'm BETTER. Because I HAVE to appreciate... I have to HOLD ON, FIGHT...to see the good. You REALIZE that. And when life or, WHATEVER...SQUISHES OUT the time you have for complaining...you can BE more grateful. You can be empathetic and understand and pray for other people. You become more PATIENT. So...for me...complaining isn't profitable. I think that's what Sara was saying.

MARSHA GAE nods at SARA when SARA smiles at her.

LUKE

If anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things. The testing of your faith produces perseverance, right? Anwar?

Speaking becomes indistinct. From where he and KELLI stand behind the sectional, LIAM stares at ANGIE. KELLI glances up at LIAM then tracks his stare over to ANGIE. KELLI glances back up at LIAM who is still staring at ANGIE. ANGIE tightens her arms around CHARLIE. KELLI looks down at

the ground.

KELLI

I'm sorry. I have to go.

LIAM tries to hold KELLI still by her arm, but she jerks away. KELLI walks quickly out of the family room, then jogs through the foyer toward the front door. ANGIE puts the plate of grapes down on the nearest corner of a coffee table with a shaking hand.

LIAM

Shit.

LIAM jogs toward the foyer, snatching a jacket from the back of a chair as he goes. He leaves the front door open, and LANDON moves slowly to close it quietly. Leaning against it with one hand on the door and one on the knob, LANDON looks back over one shoulder with lowered eyes. LANDON pushes off the door, headed out of the foyer. Indistinct talking surrounding her, ANGIE pulls away from CHARLIE and puts her hands on her knees, playing with her fingers. She blows out a shaky breath and doesn't look up as CHARLIE speaks inaudible words to her. CHARLIE uses a finger to turn her chin toward him. When ANGIE's eyes meet his, there are tears in her eyes. CHARLIE frowns, shaking his head. As people stand and move away toward the kitchen, ushered by LUKE and LANDON, ANGIE shakes her head, too.

54 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

54

Seated at a table, LYNSEY pulls out of a cardigan and checks her phone as baristas and other customers move about. LYNSEY looks up, smiling, and her mouth falls open as GILLIAN and RUTHIE approach her table together.

LYNSEY

I was expecting... I'm meeting-

GILLIAN

Angie.

LYNSEY

Angie. Yes. I-I haven't seen her in awhile...with everything...

GILLIAN

Haven't seen the belly you're staring at either... It's not impolite to ask: Yes. There's a baby in there.

LYNSEY

Congratulations!

GILLIAN

Not so fast! I might be getting divorced, too. This redhead here is Ruth Gehrman.

RUTHIE (FEMALE, EARLY TO MID 40'S)

(looking back and forth between LYNSEY and GILLIAN)

Hi. I used to believe in God. Now, I don't know. Is this how you gals talk among yourselves? And if so, Can I just drink my espresso and be quiet?

LYNSEY

They have really good espresso here.

RUTHIE

I know! And I'd rather enjoy that than bare my soul this morning.

GILLIAN

Fine with me. Let me get another chair.

GILLIAN wanders off. RUTHIE sits down. RUTHIE sighs and slaps her hands on the table.

RUTHIE

Gosh darn it, I'm gonna have to tell you now... My...son. He died. I feel like... Well, actually I haven't decided-whether HE took him from me...or, let him be taken. One thing I know... One thing I have left...is that my friends-my CRAZY

(MORE)

RUTHIE (CONT'D)
 friends-love me... So, I have to
 TRY...So... I'm here.

ANGIE approaches the table.

ANGIE
 Ruthie? Do my eyes deceive me?

RUTHIE stands and hugs ANGIE with both arms. ANGIE keeps one arm around her.

LYNSEY
 No, but your WATCH does,
 apparently.

ANGIE removes her arm from around RUTHIE and hangs the straps of a purse on the back of a chair.

RUTHIE
 I'm going to get a double shot.
 Your friend wants one-

LYNSEY
 Lynsey.

RUTHIE
 I'm sorry. Lynsey. Do you want-?-
 Gillian? Do you need some help?

GILLIAN
 Nope. Got it. No caffeine for me.
 Just a muffin and butter.

GILLIAN drags the chair over and sits down. GILLIAN grins as ANGIE dances over to her, wrapping arms around GILLIAN from behind. ANGIE kisses GILLIAN on the cheek, making a loud, smacking noise.

GILLIAN
 Somebody's in a good mood-

RUTHIE
 Okay. Coffee, Ange?

ANGIE

Yeah. Tall Caramel Macchiato. Do you want me to-?-

RUTHIE

Nope. I'll get a cup holder, a carrier...

Patting ANGIE on the arm, RUTHIE moves away.

LYNSEY

Does she know it's for here? A carrier?

ANGIE

It's fine. And No. NOT in a good mood-

LYNSEY

YOU'RE late. Why are YOU not in a good mood?

ANGIE

Late? You were supposed to come to lunch with me LAST WEEK! Never heard from you. And speaking of... I've been sending texts. Are you GETTING them?

LYNSEY

About what? Tahitian waxing and

(using air quotes)

colon re-hydration therapy?

ANGIE

About whatever I'm texting about.

LYNSEY

Is this what you're late for? So you can scold me about random thoughts you text me while I'm at work?

ANGIE

Whatever. You're too important and busy for lunch and texts and friendship. All I do is write, while you do your

(using air quotes)

real commission sales job.

GILLIAN

Angie-

ANGIE

And, no, I'm frankly having a shitty day. And I think I need counseling.

GILLIAN

What for?

ANGIE

Just... Dimples...turned out to be...a problem.

GILLIAN

Oh no. You didn't-?-

ANGIE

Cheat on Charlie?

ANGIE tilts her head to one side.

LYNSEY

What's going on?

ANGIE

I feel like I betrayed him...

RUTHIE arrives at the table and sits down.

RUTHIE

I almost had an anxiety attack up there... They say...they'll BRING the coffee...and the muffin.

55 INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

55

GILLIAN is leaning over a plate of crumbs, with her elbows on the table. RUTHIE and LYNSEY are drinking espresso. All the women are staring at ANGIE.

ANGIE

He-He-

RUTHIE

This is...LIAM...or, CHARLIE?

ANGIE closes her eyes.

ANGIE

Liam. He looked at me...like I was guilty. For having a husband.

LYNSEY

Wow.

ANGIE

The WORST part... So many worst parts... Was that I felt the SAME way.

GILLIAN

Whoa.

ANGIE

Like... How could he act that way toward me, if he had a wife...and kids-two boys... But...

RUTHIE

But YOU had-HAVE a husband, too. And kids...

ANGIE

Exactly.

GILLIAN

We talk about this in counseling... Not just how to avoid crossing boundaries and getting entangled... But how to stop growing wrong relationships and attractions in

(MORE)

GILLIAN (CONT'D)

our heads and hearts-how to DE-
tangle and back away...

ANGIE

Like I said, I think I need
counseling.

LYNSEY

Where have I been?

ANGIE

Working.

LYNSEY

Well...this-

(shaking her head)

whatever this is with you and a
grocery store man called Dimples-

ANGIE

Infatuation.

LYNSEY

YOU'RE pregnant-

GILLIAN

Yup.

LYNSEY

Possibly divorcing-

GILLIAN

Maybe.

LYNSEY

And this one is giving up on God.
But not her friends.

GILLIAN

As you cast yourself as perfect,
you make us sound like a deranged
version of Goldilocks and the Three
Bears... We're just people... DEAL.

LYNSEY

I don't care if you call yourselves
bears or crazy, I'm out.

LYNSEY stands up, grabbing her cardigan and purse.

ANGIE

Lynsey?

LYNSEY

You know what Cooper did to me.
Everyone does. And you did the SAME
thing..? ALMOST did the same thing
to Charlie? People who do that to
people deserve to be punished.

LYNSEY looks back and forth between GILLIAN and RUTHIE.

LYNSEY

You don't want her

(points to ANGIE)

to be punished?

RUTHIE shakes her head.

GILLIAN

She's our FRIEND. We LOVE her. We
may not AGREE with whatever stupid
choice here and there... But it's
not LOVE or FRIENDSHIP to wish that
on her. On me... On you... God only
wants us safe-from all the harm we
bring on this world. So how could I
wish that on anyone?

LYNSEY

I don't think we're friends
anymore, Angie. Maybe THAT'S why I
don't answer texts or come to
lunch. I don't even recognize you.

LYNSEY heads for the door.

RUTHIE

She's not nice.

GILLIAN

Not anymore.

ANGIE

She used to be.

GILLIAN

She didn't mean it.

ANGIE

There's a drop of truth in it.

GILLIAN

There's a drop of truth in every
good lie. Ask the devil. Detangle.
Let her go. Let Liam go.

56 INT. SOUTH POINT CHURCH, HEDGES MINISTRY MEETING ROOM-NIGHT 56

A group of men and women are gathered in a circle of chairs. Where the circle comes together like a belt buckle, MEGHAN and BREN VARGAS are seated.

MEGHAN

What else would you say about
detangling, Bren?

BREN

Well, Meghan, aside from just...not
talking about him or her-at all or,
as much as we used to... More than
that, I think it's GOOD...

(air quoting)

NECESSARY may be the
right...perspective: It might be
NECESSARY...to change our minds
about the absence of people. The
LOSS might actually be GAIN. Where
we can find peace. Allowing us to
focus on the RIGHT things. JESUS
CHRIST, first and foremost...and
also on the thoughts and people and

(MORE)

Bren (CONT'D)

destiny-the PURPOSE He has for
us...

MEGHAN

We sometimes have to let the ships
sail, without running out into dark
water to chase after them. We don't
have to chase God. He's right here
with us. And the Bible says the
LORD knows His plans for us. And
they are to make us better. They
are plans to give us two things.
Not guilt. Not shame. Not
insecurity. Not pain. Not wrecked
lives and broken hearts or
families. God's plans are to give
us one, hope and two, a future.

BREN

Amen.

57 INT. RETAILING GROCERY STORE, CANNED GOODS & SOUPS AISLE
(MOVING) - DAY

57

ANGIE's pushing a cart down the aisle. Her mouth is moving
as she speaks indistinctly. ANGIE runs a finger along the
fronts of cans. She reaches for one, but it rolls over her
fingers. Before it can hit the floor and dent, LIAM catches
it. He hands it to ANGIE with a smile.

LIAM nods, hesitates, and walks away. ANGIE stares after
him, rubbing the back of her neck. LIAM makes it to the end
of the aisle, hesitates, and turns back.

The classic ring of an old telephone comes buzzing out of
the purse in the cart's front basket, and ANGIE pulls the
cell phone out.

ANGIE

I was just thinking about you. How
we met.

CHARLIE

(through the speaker)

I was thinking about you, too.

LIAM turns and walks away.

ANGIE

That's why you called me.

CHARLIE

Maybe.

ANGIE

Charlie!

CHARLIE

What, my love?

ANGIE

See! That's why I love you: You're so British.

CHARLIE

British?

ANGIE

Yeah...

(shrugging)

You know..? You're like...not...unemotional... But you're...SO...TOGETHER. And such a gentleman!

CHARLIE

Thank you.

ANGIE

Dignified... You're welcome, honey. Anyway, what I was GONNA say is, Remember when we met? I invited you out for Thai! But we went-

CHARLIE

To The Inn.

ANGIE

-and ate comfort fries? We should
go-

CHARLIE

Eat some Thai food. Right now!
Technicolor Curry?

ANGIE

Yes, please. I love you, Professor.

CHARLIE

I love you, too, Angela Austin.

THE END