ASHES TO ASHES

by Godfrey Park FADE IN:

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

A one-stall bathroom with a single sink. A ledge for personal items on a sidewall.

Door opens and THORNY enters, carrying an urn. Thorny is a bookish young man wearing a dark suit. He steps to the ledge and sets the urn down.

Door opens again and HANNAH enters, carrying an identical urn. Hannah is an athletic young woman wearing a dark outfit.

Hannah and Thorny see each other.

THORNY HANNAH

Hey!

Thorny's eyes shift to the stall door and Hannah moves to block his path. Their bodies collide, the urn between them, and he bounces back a step.

THORNY (CONT'D)

I was here first, and I have a plane to catch.

HANNAH

I got to the stall first, and I have a train to catch.

Hannah's eye spot the urn on the ledge.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Who's that?

THORNY

My mother. You?

HANNAH

My father.

THORNY HANNAH (CONT'D)

Sorry.

Sorry.

They stare at their respective parents for a few beats, sigh, then turn their glares on full blast.

THORNY (CONT'D)

Before this situation degrades even further, perhaps we should introduce ourselves. HANNAH

Yes, I need a name to put on your tombstone. I'm Hannah.

THORNY

Thorny.

HANNAH

Thorny?

THORNY

It was supposed to be Thornton, but my parents were high or drunk when they registered my birth.

HANNAH

Good for them. Thornton's a stupid name.

He makes a move to go around her, but she blocks him.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

No way, Thorny. I'm going first.

THORNY

Really? With your father, Hannah?

HANNAH

Think you have me, don't you?

Before he can reply, she steps into him, forcing him to back up to the ledge.

THORNY

Why do you have to go first?

HANNAH

I play to win. Softball, track, Crew.

THORNY

Yeah, well, I kick ass on the chessboard and the quant desk.

HANNAH

I don't know what that is, so it can't be very important.

THORNY

Quit pushing me.

He grabs her shoulders and pivots her out of the way. She loses control of the urn and it smacks into the urn on the ledge and both of them start to tip over.

HANNAH THORNY (CONT'D)

No! No!

They lunge for the urns and instead send them flying. Lids pop off and ash sprays everywhere. The urns hit the floor and bounce around, spraying more ash.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Tdiot!

THORNY

Moron!

Both drop to their knees amidst the ash piles and their heads bump.

THORNY (CONT'D) HANNAH

Ow! Ow!

They each grab an urn and cradle them to their chests, then frown, and examine the urn they're holding.

THORNY (CONT'D)

My mother's name wasn't on her urn!

HANNAH

Neither was my father's!

They SCREECH in unison and look around them in horror.

THORNY

I don't know which ashes are mother's!

They frantically start sweeping ashes into the urns.

HANNAH

I'm sweeping your mother in with my father. If this urn even is my father!

THORNY

Get your hands off my mother.

He slaps the ashes out of Hannah's hand.

HANNAH

Get your hands off my father.

She slaps the ashes out of Thorny's hands.

THORNY

Your father's full of germs, now. And probably other nasty crap.

HANNAH

Well, your mother's full of shit, too.

THORNY

Maybe we could DNA them apart.

HANNAH

Each individual ash particle?

THORNY

Right. Now they're all mixed up. Like they're having sex, or something.

Hannah gasps in outrage and hits him on the arm. He shoves her flat on her back, then laughs somewhat hysterically.

Hannah shoves a foot into him, and he tips over onto his back. She laughs.

They scramble to their knees, eyes narrowed angrily.

HANNAH THORNY (CONT'D)

Bastard!

Bitch!

They launch themselves at each other and roll around on the floor, making twisted ash angels. When they roll to an exhausted stop, they're still in each other's grasp.

HANNAH (CONT'D)

I don't usually let guys get to second base on the first date.

THORNY

You don't have a second base.

HANNAH

A damnable lie. From what I can feel, you're not swinging a very big bat.

Their eyes remain locked on each other.

THORNY

Can we stop flinging around sexual innuendos and just kiss?

HANNAH

You'd like that, wouldn't you?

He nods. She shrugs. They kiss.