DAISY

by

Chuck Ziegler
FADE IN:

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

A smoky low lit cabaret room buzzes with conversations.

OFFSTAGE

DOMINIC SCANDURA, (30), a suavely dressed DEAN MARTIN look-a-like, is with the STAGE MANAGER as three YOUNG WOMEN in the background check themselves out in a lighted mirror.

DOMINIC
I’m wanting these girls to try something new, something different. Something that’s hot. They’ve been doing the jazz/blues thing but that’s not what’s in right now.

STAGE MANAGER
I know what you mean. Girl groups are all over the charts, but a white girl group, now that’s a rare thing and could be just what the kids will want to listen to.

Dominic looks over at the three and when PATTI, (21), looks his way, he winks at her. Patti is slim, curvaceous and buxom with her brunette hair teased high.

DOMINIC
(to the women)
Alright, alright, you all look great. Get on over here, we’re ready for you.

The stage manager moves over to a podium with a microphone. He points to a STAGE HAND, who holds a pulley.

The women all shuffle over next to Dominic in their tight sequined dresses. His wife, CONNIE, (20), a SANDRA DEE look-a-like, gives him a kiss on the cheek.

CONNIE
You’re sure we’re up to this, right? We haven’t rehearsed this number as much as I’d have liked to.

DOMINIC
You girls are gonna do great. This is going to be your big break.

(MORE)
DOMINIC (CONT'D)
Just sell the hell out of it. I’ll do the rest.

The three hold hands and exchange looks of confidence.

PATTI
Let’s do this.

DOMINIC
Get into position, it’s show time.

Connie leads the way to the stage but Patti stops next to Dominic.

Dominic gives Patti a pat and squeeze on the butt. She smiles and heads to her microphone.

The stage manager motions to the stage hand to pull the curtain.

STAGE MANAGER
(into mike)
Ladies and Gentlemen, for the first time on our stage, give it up for the HEARTBEATS with their new hit single, YOU BETTER.

The curtains part and an enthusiastic audience applauds.

A slow beat begins which the three sway to.

CONNIE
I’D BE CRYIN’, IF MY MAN WOULD EVER STRAY.

PATTI/CINDY
UH HUH.

CONNIE
I’D BE DYIN’, IF SHE TOOK MY MAN AWAY.

PATTI/CINDY
OH YEAH.

CONNIE
I’M GONNA PUT UP A FIGHT, THIS WOMAN’S GOT TO PAY.

PATTI/CINDY
SHE DOES.
CONNIE
HE’S GONNA LISTEN TO ME AND THIS IS WHAT I’D SAY.

The beat quickens, the women begin to shimmy and do some choreography.

CONNIE/PATTI/CINDY
YOU BETTER COME BACK TO ME,
YOU BETTER LIKE WHAT YOU SEE.
SHE’LL ONLY RIP OUT YOUR HEART,
SHE’LL ALSO TEAR IT APART.
YOU BETTER OPEN YOUR EYES,
YOU BETTER SEE SHE’S NO PRIZE.
I’M GONNA DO WHAT I NEED,
YOU BETTER LISTEN TO ME.

Connie takes her lead position again.

The music slows to it’s original pace.

CONNIE
NOW LET ME WARN YOU, THE ENDING’S NOT SO GOOD.

PATTI/CINDY
OH NO.

CONNIE
I SURELY PUT UP A FIGHT, I TOLD YOU THAT I WOULD.

PATTI/CINDY
SHE DID.

CONNIE
MY MAN DIDN’T LISTEN TO ME, AS A MAN HE SURELY SHOULD.

PATTI/CINDY
THAT’S RIGHT.

CONNIE
HE GOT WHAT WAS COMIN’ TO HIM, I’D CHANGE IT IF I COULD.

The music becomes upbeat again and the crowd begins to hoot and howl their approval.

CONNIE/PATTI/CINDY
YOU BETTER LIKE WHERE YOU ARE,
YOU BETTER STAY VERY FAR,
SHE BETTER SAVE HER LAST BREATH,
OR IT COULD LEAD TO HER DEATH,
(MORE)
YOU BETTER RUN FOR YOUR LIFE, 
IF YOU DO MAKE HER YOUR WIFE, 
OR I WILL COME AFTER YOU, 
IF IT’S THE LAST THING I DO,

The music slows as the three come together.

YOU BETTER.

The audience goes wild and the three women are elated.

OFFSTAGE

Dominic grins from ear to ear as he applauds and whistles. He goes to the stage manager and squeezes him tight.

The three head off stage as they acknowledge the crowd.

Connie runs to Dominic and jumps in his arms and hugs and kisses all over him.

Patti, behind Connie, gives Dominic a jealous look.

Cindy, (20), small in stature with bright red hair and freckles, hugs and kisses the appreciative stage manager.

That was amazing. You were right Mr. Scandura, they loved it.

I would never put you out there if I didn’t know you could do it. Now go change, They want you to do another number after the next group. I told you to be prepared, now go on.

I trusted you sweetie.

Connie kisses Dominic again and heads back to a room at the back of the theater with Cindy in hand.

Patti hangs back and pulls Dominic aside behind a small curtain. She gives him a deep, passionate kiss. She puts his hand on her belly. He pulls away shocked.
PATTI
You know it gets under my skin when
you get all lovey dovey with
Connie. Now I’ve got something of
yours she’ll never have.

DOMINIC
Are you saying? You wouldn’t kid a
man with a bad ticker would you?

Patti puts her arms around his shoulders and leans in.

PATTI
(whispers)
It’s your’s baby. Hope this
doesn’t...

Connie pulls back the curtain and startles the couple.

CONNIE
...Are you kidding me? My best
friend? My husband? And you’re
pregnant?

Connie begins to pace, then stops.

CONNIE
(mumbles to herself)
This can’t be happening, this can’t
be happening.

She gains composure and heads to the couple, now separated.

DOMINIC
Now Connie baby, it’s not what you
think. This here between Patti and
me, it meant nothing. Just a
drunken night on the road.

PATTI
What do you mean nothing Dom? I’m
having your child. That’s something
if you ask me. And it was more than
a drunken night.

CONNIE
(to Patti)
Really? This has been going on for
a while now? Jesus Patti, you’ve
been stealing my men all our lives.
I should have seen this coming.
(to Dominic)
I can’t believe you would do this?
(MORE)
And with my best friend? You two deserve each other.

Cindy shows up to see what is going on.

CINDY
What’s up guys? Are we still going on?

Connie turns to leave, then turns back.

CONNIE
You two can go on. I’m going on.
Out of here.

Connie runs towards the changing room, turns and points at her husband and Patti.

CONNIE
(bitter)
You better.

Dominic runs after her.

CINDY
What the heck happened Patti? We did so good tonight, he said we were going to go places we’ve always dreamed of.

PATTI
(pats her stomach)
Well Cindy, some dreams die and some come true.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY SKYLINE - DAY
A sun rises and highlights various New York City landmarks.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREETS - DAY
City streets begin to show signs of life.

An ELDERLY WOMAN,(70), with long braided grey hair and clothed in a variety of thrift store choices, pushes a shopping cart adorned with various shiny objects and a floral fabric wrapped around the lower half of the cart.

She stops at trash bins and pulls out items of interest. She tosses some in her cart or back in the bin.
INT. CONDO BEDROOM - DAY

HUNTER FOXX, (late 20’s), GQ handsome and buff, sneaks out of bed and grabs a nearby robe. He looks back at a half covered NAKED WOMAN still asleep, shakes his head and walks to the bathroom.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREETS - DAY

The elderly woman navigates her cart through a now busier crowd and stops outside a corner bodega lined with a beautiful display of flowers.

She begins to look over the different choices.

A smallish Asian man, SAM (60), is unaware of her presence. He turns to her and smiles.

INT. HUNTERS APARTMENT - DAY

Hunter, now in a suit and tie, throws away a half eaten bagel and downs a cup of coffee. He finishes writing on a note card and slips a twenty dollar bill inside.

He quietly enters the bedroom and leaves the note next to the still asleep woman.

EXT. SAM’S BODEGA - DAY

Sam takes the elderly woman’s selection of flowers, places them in a carton and hands them back to her.

She pulls out an old, battered change purse and before she can open it, Sam waves her offer off.

She kisses him gently on the cheek.

Sam turns to his collection and pulls out a Daisy and cuts it. He places it in her hair.

SUPER: - “DAISY” APPEARS WITH THE DAISY IN THE HAIR DOTTING THE I.

EXT. CITY PARK ENTRANCE - DAY

The elderly woman stops at the entrance to one of New York’s many small parks and prepares her cart to sell her flowers.
Across the street from the park, Hunter emerges from the lobby of a beautiful modern high-rise as the doorman, CHESTER (60) holds the door open.

CHESTER
Good morning Mr. Foxx.

HUNTER
Right back at ya Chester.

Hunter heads towards a parked car and motions for the driver to give him a moment as he looks across the street.

He crosses the street and surprises the elderly woman as she pulls herself up from the bottom of her cart.

HUNTER
Sorry, didn’t mean to startle you.

He pulls out his wallet and hands her a five dollar bill.

HUNTER
And how’s my little Daisy doing this morning?

DAISY
Oh my goodness Mr. Foxx, you can startle me any time. I’m better now that I’ve seen your handsome face. Would you like? The usual?

She pulls out a single yellow rose.

Hunter takes the flower from her.

HUNTER
And you always make my mornings better as well.

DAISY
Isn’t this a beautiful morning. Before you know it, summer will be over with fall knocking at the door. Well, not my door ya know.

HUNTER
Trust me, I’d much rather be at the beach today. Hard to call in when you’re the boss though.

He begins to head back across the street to his car then turns back to Daisy.
HUNTER
(loud)
You stay out of trouble.

Hunter gets in the car and it speeds away.

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Hunter’s car pulls up to the front door of a building. He exits the car, looks up above the entrance and sighs.

INSERT - ABOVE BUILDING ENTRANCE - FOXX PUBLISHING CORP.

BACK TO SCENE

Hunter enters the building.

INT. HUNTERS OFFICE - DAY

Hunter passes several desks with EMPLOYEES hard at work. He does not acknowledge anyone.

He enters his office. His assistant, SIERRA (35), is right behind him with coffee in one hand, the other in a tight fist. She is statuesque but dressed conservatively.

Hunter plops down in his chair and Sierra hands him pills and sets the coffee in front of him.

SIERRA
Get it together, meeting in the board room in five.

Sierra exits.

Hunter downs the pills and turns his chair towards the view of the city outside his window.

Hunter’s mother, CAROLYN (60), beautiful in style and appearance, walks by his office and pauses at the sight of her son with his head now on his desk.

She sets a folder in front of Sierra, now at her desk that faces his office.

CAROLYN
He’s not really here is he. I hate to see him just throw his life away in such a manner.

(MORE)
CAROLYN (CONT'D)
Such a shame he didn’t get his father’s passion for the business.

SIERRA
Oh, he’s got a passion alright. He’s just using it in a destructive way. Let’s hope he outgrows it before it’s too late.

CAROLYN
(chuckles)
Outgrows it? Way past that I’m afraid. Is it that bad Sierra? He doesn’t open up to me anymore. He never really wanted this position, but he’s felt a responsibility to take it on. I couldn’t do this without him, but I do need him to grow up soon. You do take great care of him and it doesn’t go unnoticed.

SIERRA
I appreciate that Mrs. Foxx. You and Hunter have always been so great to me and I promise to help him get his act together.

Carolyn walks away.

Sierra grabs the folders on her desk and taps on Hunter’s office glass loud enough to cause him to sit up. She points at her watch and walks away.

INT. OUTSIDE BOARDROOM - DAY

Through the boardroom glass, Hunter plays with his pen as he ignores what is going on around him.

Sierra stands at a chart and points to various diagrams.

Carolyn passes by, stops when she notices her son’s lack of interest, shakes her head and continues on.

SERIES OF SHOTS - THE FOLLOWING WEEK

-- INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT -- Hunter parties with his best friend, TYLER, surrounded by beautiful women.

-- EXT. NEW YORK STREET - NIGHT -- Hunter stumbles along a sidewalk as he kisses all over a hot, half dressed woman. He stops at Daisy’s cart, purchases a flower and kisses Daisy.
-- EXT. METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART - NIGHT -- Hunter helps his mother out of a limousine. Paparazzi attract his attention. His mother continues several more steps. She stops, clutches her chest then regains her composure. Hunter is unaware.

-- EXT. YACHT DECK - DAY -- Hunter and Tyler, once again, party with assorted beautiful people on a large yacht with obvious drug use seen by some on board.

-- INT. HUNTERS OFFICE - DAY -- With Hunter’s chair turned towards the window, Sierra turns it around to find him asleep. She walks over and pulls down all the blinds.

-- INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY -- Carolyn, dressed in a hospital gown, is approached by a doctor with an open chart. He shakes his head and she turns her head as tears appear.

-- INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT -- Hunter, with his mother on his arm, is escorted to a prime table. He seats her and excuses himself. Carolyn opens her purse, takes out a bottle of pills and discretely takes one of them. She smiles as Hunter comes back.

EXT. SAM’S BODEGA - DAY

Sam sees Daisy cross the street with her cart. He takes a quick look in his store window and slicks back his hair with a wet palm.

An EMPLOYEE, sweeping the sidewalk nearby, stops.

EMPLOYEE
Mr. Li is getting pretty for his lady friend?

SAM
(flustered)
You just get that sidewalk finished. Just a friend. I take care of her flower orders.

The employee goes back to his task and giggles to himself.

Daisy has now reached Sam.

DAISY
Hey Sam, how are you this wonderful morning?
SAM
Doing fine Miss Daisy. Will be little hot today, I hope you find a shady spot.

Daisy rummages under her cart and comes back up with an umbrella. With ease, she snaps it onto the handle of her cart.

DAISY
I’m prepared.

Sam giggles, then turns to his flowers and begins to gather up various stems for her.

DAISY
You don’t need to worry about little ole me Sam.

She closes the umbrella back up and fits it under her cart. She heads over to an area of the flowers Sam is not at.

DAISY
(excited)
You have Bird of Paradise now? I bet I could get a pretty penny for a couple of those.

SAM
Yes ma’am, should be getting them for next few weeks. I let you have a couple. They make your cart look even more colorful.

Sam adds them to the collection he has gotten ready for her.

DAISY
So Sam, why don’t you stop by my spot later and we can share a sandwich? You know where it is don’t you?

Sam hands her the collection of gathered flowers.

SAM
Uh, I don’t know, I am short handed today and it hard to get away. I may have to stay until my grandson comes in. I would like to take you up on that offer. In near future if I may.
DAISY
   (winks)
   I’ll pencil you in.

She begins to turn her cart around.

DAISY
   My social calendar is pretty full
   these days ya know.

SAM
   You so funny.

She kisses him on the cheek and begins to push her cart. She turns back to Sam.

DAISY
   I can’t tell you how much I
   appreciate your generosity.

Daisy continues on.

Sam grabs a fresh daisy, catches up to her and taps her on the shoulder. Daisy turns.

Sam places the daisy in her hair with tenderness.

SAM
   You can’t start day without this.

Daisy takes the flower out of her hair and takes a deep smell. She replaces it and twirls it in her hair.

DAISY
   So glad you didn’t give me the
   nickname petunia.

SAM
   Or worse. Gladiola.

They both laugh.

INT. HUNTERS OFFICE - DAY

Carolyn appears at Hunter’s open door and taps on it to get his attention.

CAROLYN
   Any time for me?

Hunter shuts off his computer and turns to face his mother, who has already sat down across from him.
HUNTER
Twenty four seven for you sweet mother. What’s up?

CAROLYN
I hate to beat a dead horse, but you do know the ramifications of the company going public don’t you?

HUNTER
Yeah, means I’ll be loaded. I mean we. Sorry.

CAROLYN
Hunter, they could give you the boot out the door after they find out just how little you contribute. This is serious.

Hunter gets up from his chair and paces.

HUNTER
Wow, I guess I just figured that I’d be here the rest of my life. Maybe this is a good thing.

CAROLYN
(harsh tone)
That’s how you’re looking at this? A way out? I am so disappointed in you son. I’m not going to be around forever to make sure you’re okay, to fight for you.

Carolyn grabs her side and takes a few deep breaths. Hunter notices.

HUNTER
Are you okay mother? Ulcer acting up again?

Carolyn waves off Hunter’s concern.

CAROLYN
Be a dear and get me a glass of water would you.

Hunter goes over to his bar and pours a glass.

Carolyn sneaks a pill out of her pocket and places it in her mouth while Hunter’s back is turned.

She takes a sip of the water Hunter has gotten her.
CAROLYN
Hunter, I haven’t been doing all that well but I don’t want to burden you. I just need you to focus on your future. I have been so proud of you on so many occasions and nothing would make me prouder than to see you take this company further than your father ever did.

Hunter sits next to his mother and she takes his hands in hers.

HUNTER
Dad didn’t make this company what it is. You did. You were the force behind him, don’t think I didn’t see that through the years. When he left you for that bimbo model, you became stronger than ever.

CAROLYN
Well, that bimbo model did end up killing him. Literally.

They both snicker at that thought.

CAROLYN
And I do know that you weren’t ready to step up and just run a publishing empire, but I knew you were capable of learning how. I think your father’s passing really hurt you deeper than I realized it had. I thought you’d grow up with his sense of responsibility.

Hunter rubs his mothers hands. She looks down.

He pulls her head back up to face him.

HUNTER
I wasn’t ready. I don’t know if I ever will be. I’m doing this for you and I’m sorry I’m letting you down. It’s always been me and you, even when dad was here. I think you may have spoiled me a bit too much you know.

CAROLYN
(laughs through tears)
You? Spoiled?
(MORE)
Hunter, there is something I need you to know. More than one thing is going to change around here. I may need to take some time off to...

She is interrupted by Hunter’s cell phone. He looks at it and winces.

HUNTER
Oh geez, it’s Tyler. Give me just a sec to get rid of him.

Carolyn stands, straightens her skirt and walks over to the mirror to check her makeup.

CAROLYN
No sweetie, you two catch up. I’m sure Tyler has gotten himself into some kind of predicament that he needs your help with.

She heads toward the door.

HUNTER
He’s not that bad. We’ll finish this later, I promise.
(into his cell)
Hey Ty, what’s up.

Carolyn shuts his office door and leans against it for support. She takes a few deep breaths.

Sierra, who has rounded a corner, sees Carolyn and rushes over.

SIERRA
Mrs. Foxx? Are you okay? What can I do for you? Here, please sit down.

Sierra helps Carolyn over to her chair and looks over at Hunter’s office and sees that he has not noticed his mother’s situation.

BACK TO HUNTER’S OFFICE

INTERCUT – HUNTER’S OFFICE/TYLER’S MUSIC STUDIO

HUNTER
Now wait a minute. I just can’t up and leave.
(MORE)
HUNTER (CONT'D)
There’s a lot of stuff going down here and my mother just gave me a speech about getting my act together.

TYLER, (35), tall and lanky and wearing his usual tight fitting flipped up collar polo, is behind a large board of dials and buttons. A BAND is seen through a glass partition warming up.

TYLER
You deserve a little time away bro. I’ll have you back in no time. That is unless we score big and we won’t want to come back.

Tyler flips a switch on the board.

TYLER
(into microphone)
Sounding good guys, we’ll be ready to go in five.
(into phone)
Hey look, if you’re going to start taking that job of yours more seriously, then we need this trip now buddy. We won’t be able to do it any time soon. Don’t let me down.

HUNTER
You’re not going to pull a stunt and get us in any trouble are you?

Hunter turns his chair towards the window so not to be seen.

TYLER
Well, trouble is my middle name now isn’t it?

HUNTER
(frustrated)
Okay, okay, I’m in. It’s been awhile since we’ve gotten away from the city, so it could be just what I need.

INT. SIERRA’S DESK - SAME

With Carolyn still at Sierra’s desk, Sierra hands her a glass of water and rubs her back.
SIERRA
I’m so, so sorry. I knew something wasn’t quite right, but terminal? Have you told Hunter yet?

CAROLYN
I’ve tried Sierra, trust me. It’s just never been the right time. He’ll be devastated and I don’t know if he could handle it right now.

Sierra wipes away a tear.

SIERRA
Have they given you any idea how long?

CAROLYN
There, there dear. I need you to be strong as well. And I don’t think hearing it from you will make it any easier so please let me do it when it’s the right time. The doctors are saying anywhere from a couple of months to a year. I’m not going to do any of the therapy’s they are suggesting. I won’t do that to myself or my son.

Carolyn looks across over to Hunter’s office and notices he has turned his back away from her view.

CAROLYN
Can’t imagine what that Tyler is talking him into now.

INT. SOUP KITCHEN - DAY

Daisy, still with her cart, leaves the end of a soup kitchen line, tray in hand. She looks among the crowded room.

A large woman, SHIRLEY, waves for Daisy to come over.

Daisy puts her tray on her cart and heads in Shirley’s direction.

DAISY
Shirley, how long’s it been? You’re looking pretty smart. Is that a new dress?

Daisy sits down across from Shirley.
Shirley, stands to show Daisy her new dress, a size that does not quite fit her large frame, then sits back down.

SHIRLEY
They just brought in a new truckload of goods. I got me a couple of new things. You should get over there before everything’s gone. That crazy Madge is taking it all.

MADGE, crazy hair and wearing several things at once, is seen going through a bin like a tornado, throwing every other garment into a suitcase behind her.

DAISY
I’m good. You know my stuff is better than anything they bring in here.

SHIRLEY
You are definitely the best dressed in here by far. If you ever want to share, I think we’re about the same size.

Daisy pulls out real silverware from her bag and sets it nice and neat next to her tray.

DAISY
(giggles)
Tell you what, if I win the lottery, you’ll have first dibs on my things.

She places her napkin in her lap, lady like, then begins eating her meal.

A man with a limp, OSCAR, struggles to sit himself down beside Shirley. He drops his tray on the table.

OSCAR
Don’t they have anything other than dry eggs and toast here?
(to Daisy)
Haven’t seen you around lately. How you been doing?

SHIRLEY
Take it easy there buster. Be thankful you’re getting anything to eat. I, for one, think this is pretty fine dining.
Shirley tries to mimic how Daisy eats.

    OSCAR
    (mouthful)
    Sorry ladies, I didn’t know I was in the presence of royalty.

    DAISY
    Oh Oscar, she’s just playing with you. You’re welcome to dine with us any time. I’m doing great, have a lovely flower business I’ve been running all summer. Hasn’t it been a lovely summer?

    OSCAR
    (giggles)
    A business? Yeah, and I’m running a Forbe’s 500 corporation. Hope it works out for you.

    SHIRLEY
    Wow Oscar, you’re in a mood today. What’s got into you this morning? Are you off your meds?

Shirley digs through her make-shift bag and pulls out a pill bottle.

    SHIRLEY
    What do you need?

    DAISY
    It’s alright Shirley, he’s not doing anything wrong. Might just be a tinge of jealousy.

Daisy winks at Oscar and he smiles back.

    SHIRLEY
    So, how are things going between you and that flower guy of yours?

    DAISY
    He’s just a friend Shirley, he’s been providing me with flowers since I worked for old lady Chadwick.
    (she looks up)
    May she rest in peace.

Daisy wipes the corners of her mouth lady like and then gets up from the table.
She spit shines her knife and fork and places them back in her bag.

DAISY
I hate the plastic ware they make us use.

Oscar stands as Daisy gathers her things.

DAISY
Oh my, such a gentleman. There’s hope for you yet Oscar. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I must move on. I have to pick up my flowers before it gets too busy. You two behave and stay out of trouble.

Daisy places her tray on her cart and waves to others on her way to discard the tray.

SHIRLEY
(yells)
I’ll save you a bed tonight. Try to make it by curfew.

EXT. MONTE CARLO - DAY
A sweeping view of the Monte Carlo coastline is shown.

EXT. FIVE STAR HOTEL POOL - DAY
Hunter and Tyler party in a private cabana surrounded by beautiful women with empty champagne glasses being filled by a butler.

TYLER
Wasn’t I right buddy?

EXT. NEW YORK STREET - DAY
An ambulance races down a busy street.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY
Sierra is on her cell just outside a hospital room with Carolyn hooked up to machines inside the room. She looks back inside the room as frustration shows on her face.

SIERRA
(into phone)
Where are you?
INT. MONTE CARLO NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Hunter is sandwiched between two women as he goes back and forth making out between the two. Tyler, shirtless and sweaty, is dancing like a maniac on the dance floor.

EXT. HOSPITAL ENTRANCE - DAY

Sierra, even more frustrated, paces near the entrance as she is on her cell phone again.

INT. CASINO - NIGHT

Hunter and Tyler are at the craps table. With each roll the crowd screams with excitement.

TYLER
(to Hunter)
Still wishing you hadn’t come?
(to waitress)
Another round here babe.

He swats the waitress on the butt.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Sierra, now in a hallway chair, closes her cell phone and breaks down as a NURSE next to her rubs her back in condolence.

FADE TO BLACK.

SUPER: - “ONE MONTH LATER”

EXT. PARK ACROSS FROM HUNTER’S CONDO - DAY

Daisy sells one of her flowers to a passerby.

She looks over towards the condo as Chester opens the door for someone.

She puts her cart in order and begins to push it towards the building.

CONDO ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

Chester sees Daisy approach and tilts his hat to her as she arrives.
CHESTER
Good day, Miss. I’ve noticed Mr. Foxx’s daily visits. I’m Chester, been with this building for over 20 years now.

DAISY
It’s nice to make your acquaintance Chester. You may call me Daisy.

She fondles the daisy in her hair as she says this in a flirtatious way.

DAISY
Speaking of Mr. Foxx, I haven’t seen him around for weeks. Is he away again?

CHESTER
Well Miss Daisy, I don’t know how to tell you this but Mr. Foxx’s mother passed away a few weeks ago and he’s pretty much locked himself up in that penthouse of his ever since. Gets almost everything he needs delivered. The only one that he lets up is his assistant.

DAISY
Oh no. Oh no. Oh, that is so sad. I feel so bad for the poor man. I know he took the flowers he bought from me to her daily. I feel like I knew her.

CHESTER
Sad indeed. His mother was a saint. She use to live here as well. Was always a ball of sunshine even on the cloudiest of days. She and Mr. Foxx were amazing people and loved each other dearly. I’m speaking of the younger Mr. Foxx of course.

Daisy looks inside one of her carts’ boxes and pulls out a pen and battered piece of paper.

DAISY
Never heard him speak of his father.

She begins writing on the paper.
DAISY
Any chance you could get this message to him? I know it’s not a card or anything, but I do want him to know I’m thinking of him.

Chester takes the folded up note from Daisy.

CHESTER
My pleasure. I’ll add it to mail we send up to him at the end of the day.

Daisy puts her cart back in order and turns it around to leave.

DAISY
Aren’t you a sweetheart. I should have come over here a lot sooner. You have a good day now Chester and I’ll keep my eye on that door everyday so I’ll be one of the first to welcome him back to the world.

Daisy begins her stroll back.

CHESTER
(to himself)
And I’ll have my eye on you Miss Daisy.

Daisy makes her way across a busy street as cars and cabs honk at her slowness. She waves them off.

EXT. SAM’S BODEGA - DAY

Daisy watches as Sam puts together a very large arrangement. She nods with approval with each selection.

DAISY
I can’t tell you how much this means to me Sam. I know it’s not much for poor Mr. Foxx, but maybe a nice bouquet will pick his spirits up. You know I’ll pay you back dear.

Sam wraps a nice bow to his finished product.

SAM
Don’t be silly, I know how important it is to you. 
(MORE)
SAM (CONT'D)
I have my best delivery boy take them over right away.

DAISY
You are the sweetest. More of you in this world and we’d be a better place for it.

Daisy goes over to Sam and with his back to her, she wraps her arms around him and squeezes tight. He smiles.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO HALLWAY - DAY
An elevator opens and Sierra exits, large briefcase in hand, and heads to the end of the hallway and knocks on a door.

INSIDE HUNTER’S CONDO - SAME
The condo is littered with pizza boxes and half eaten Chinese food containers. Dishes are piled in the sink.

Hunter rises from the couch, scruffy looking and wearing an old T-shirt and boxers, and shuffles over to the door.

Sierra is at the door as it opens and she pushes her way in and looks around.

SIERRA
You did this all in three days?

She shoves some things on the dining room table aside and places the briefcase on it.

Hunter goes through a few of the containers. He sniffs some before he finds one he feels is still edible. He heads over to the dining table.

SIERRA
You’re going to get salmonella you know.

Sierra opens the briefcase.

HUNTER
Well, it wouldn’t be the first time. What do you have for me today? Can’t believe they’re still letting me take time off. Aren’t they biting at the bit to get me off the board?
SIERRA
Your mother was well loved by many of them. They’re doing it out of respect for her, but you better get out of this funk soon. I don’t know how much more of this I can take.

Sierra stops what she is doing and looks around.

SIERRA
At least let me get a cleaner over here.

HUNTER
(with mouth full)
Any day now. Any day. Hey, what’s wrong with this place?

Sierra rolls her eyes.

The door bell rings and Hunter gives Sierra a nod of his head to get up and open it.

SIERRA
You’re impossible.

She opens the door to see nothing but a big bouquet of flowers.

A YOUNG ASIAN MAN pops his head out from behind.

YOUNG ASIAN MAN
Delivery for Mr. Foxx.

Sierra turns to Hunter.

SIERRA
Expecting anything?

HUNTER
How’d he get up here? I’m not taking visitors. Isn’t anyone working the front desk?

Sierra accepts the flowers and takes a deep sniff.

SIERRA
These are beautiful. We definitely need to put these out, give this place some color.

(to delivery man)
Hold on one second.
She places the flowers on the table, opens her purse, pulls out a bill and hands it to the delivery man.

He bows several times as he backs up out the door.

**ASIAN MAN**
Thank you, thank you very much.

**SIERRA**
You’re quite welcome. Thank you.

Sierra shuts the door and heads back over to the flowers.

**SIERRA**
Any chance you have a clean vase around here? Hey look, there’s a card.

She pulls the card from the arrangement and hands it to Hunter then starts going through cabinets to find a vase.

Hunter opens the card with hesitance and sighs. After reading it, he breaks down and sobs uncontrollably.

Sierra rushes to his side.

**SIERRA**
What is it? What did the card say? Who was it from?

She rubs his back to try to get him to calm down.

Hunter gets control of himself and looks once again at the card.

**HUNTER**
(through tears)
It’s from Daisy.

**SIERRA**
Daisy? Who the heck is Daisy?

Hunter gets up from the table and goes over to the floor to ceiling window and looks down at the park across the street.

He turns from the window and starts looking through small mounds of clothes scattered around the apartment. He finds a pair of pants and shirt that are presentable.

**HUNTER**
Daisy happens to be the sweetest woman on the face of the earth.

(MORE)
She’s the woman I’ve been buying flowers from for my mother’s desk for months.

He continues to get dressed.

HUNTER
Go ahead, read the card.

Sierra picks up the card.

INSERT – THE CARD, WHICH READS:

“Dear, dear Hunter,

My heart breaks for the loss of your sweet mother. I know that with time, your mother’s strength will become your strength. She is there in your heart and you will always have that. You will always have a place in my heart. Love you sweetheart, Daisy.”

BACK TO SCENE

SIERRA
What a beautiful sentiment.

HUNTER
That’s the last thing my mother said to me before I left for Monte Carlo. Love you sweetheart.

Sierra goes back to placing the flowers in a vase.

SIERRA
Wow, what a coincidence. This is such a lovely selection too. She put a lot of thought into this. Where is her shop?

Hunter grabs his keys and, already on his way to the door, stops to examine the flowers and takes a deep sniff. He opens the door and turns around.

HUNTER
She doesn’t have a shop.

EXT. HUNTERS CONDO ENTRANCE – DAY

As Hunter racers through the lobby and towards the door, Chester sees him and has the door open as he arrives.
CHESTER
Well, well, Mr. Foxx. It’s so great to see you.

HUNTER
Thank you Chester, I know it’s been a while.

Hunter looks across the street to Daisy’s usual spot to find she is not there. He looks up and down the street for any sign of her.

CHESTER
Anything wrong Mr. Foxx? Are you expecting your driver?

HUNTER
Any chance you’ve seen the woman that sells flowers over there by the park?

CHESTER
Oh. You mean Daisy? Fine lady that one. She was here a little while ago but I have not seen her lately. She wrote you a note that I put in with today’s mail for you. Did you want it now?

HUNTER
You know her Chester? No, no. I got her message already.

Hunter looks at his watch then back up and down the street again.

CHESTER
I have made her acquaintance and I find her to be a very intriguing one to say the least.

Hunter gives him a puzzled look.

HUNTER
I’m going to head back upstairs, but do me the biggest favor.

Hunter slips Chester a bill.

HUNTER
If you see her, have the front desk give me a buzz. Have my car in front in a half hour.
Hunter reenters the building.

CHESTER
I will Mr. Foxx. I will do whatever it takes to keep her around.

INT. HUNTERS OFFICE FLOOR - DAY

The elevator to Hunter’s floor opens and Hunter, followed by Sierra, exits.

The room of employees and assistants all stop what they’re doing, stand and clap.

Hunter acknowledges their reception with a polite wave on his way to his office.

HUNTERS OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

As Hunter goes behind his desk and looks around at his office, he sighs.

Sierra enters with his briefcase and a cup of coffee.

SIERRA
That wasn’t too hard now was it?

HUNTER
That wasn’t, it’s the rest of the day I’m fearing. What time is the board meeting scheduled for? I need some time to go over all the data and figures again.

Sierra sets Hunter’s coffee on his desk and goes to open the blinds.

SIERRA
You have plenty of time, you’ll do fine. Jesus, this office sure needed a shot of sunshine. It’s a whole new day in here.

Hunter takes off his jacket and hands it to a waiting Sierra.

SIERRA
And you know I’ll be right there to help you get through it. They won’t be out for blood. Yet.
HUNTER
Ha Ha. Now be a doll and get the ad department team in here ASAP.

SIERRA
Call me doll again and you’ll be getting your own coffee. I’ll have them here in five.

Sierra exits and shuts the door.

Hunter flips through some of the papers he has pulled from his briefcase.

A light tap on the door is heard.

HUNTER
(loud)
You said five minutes. Ask them to wait in the conference room.

The door slowly opens and Tyler’s head appears.

TYLER
(whispers)
Hey guy, it’s so good to see you behind that desk again. Any chance I can welcome you back?

Tyler enters the room with caution with one arm behind his back. He presents a large bottle of champagne as he approaches Hunter’s desk.

Hunter focuses back on the paperwork in front of him.

HUNTER
You really think I’m ready to see you again? How did you get past Sierra?

TYLER
She told me you were going to be here and said the other day maybe our getting back in touch would be good for you.

Hunter slowly looks up and gives Tyler a stern look.

HUNTER
Oh she did now did she?

He looks back down.
HUNTER
(to himself)
We’ll see about that raise.

Tyler sets the champagne on the bar, walks over to the office couch and plops down.

TYLER
I’ve called you, texted you, emailed you. I wanted to be there for you this past month and you just shut me out.

HUNTER
(calm but firm)
It’s because of you I wasn’t here Tyler. It’s because of you I wasn’t here for my mother.

TYLER
Hunter, come on guy. I didn’t tie you up and kidnap you. The only mistake we made was not telling anyone, even Sierra, where we were going. Who knew turning off our phones would turn out to be a bad decision. You’re mother was like a mother to me too. I never had a mother. You know I’d have done anything for her.

HUNTER
(long pause)
She always questioned our friendship you know. She did love you. She just didn’t trust you.

Hunter gets up from his desk and walks to the front of it and sits along the edge, arms folded ready to listen.

TYLER
Forbidding me to attend her funeral was one of the worse days of my life Hunter. I was there by the way. Just off in the distance. I wanted to make sure you were okay. Are you okay?

HUNTER
I’m fine, I’m fine.
TYLER
I’ve always been here for you and
I’m not going anywhere, so you take
whatever time you need to heal and
get back to me when you feel up to
it. I’m not giving up on our
friendship.

Tyler gets up from the couch and heads towards the door,
opens it half way then stops. He does not look back at
Hunter.

TYLER
Enjoy the champagne.

He heads out the door.

HUNTER
Hey Ty. Why don’t you come back at
five and we’ll enjoy it together.

Tyler turns to his friend, winks and then heads out the door.

EXT. PARK ACROSS FROM HUNTER’S CONDO – DAY

Daisy rounds the corner of the park and head towards her spot
by the entrance. She glances over to Hunter’s building.

Chester sees her and waves to get her attention. He runs into
the building, then sprints back out and across the street.

CHESTER
(out of breath)
Miss Daisy, Miss Daisy. Hunter
wanted me to let you know he’s back
from the dead, sorry, I meant he’s
back to getting himself out again.
He was looking for you earlier.

DAISY
Oh my goodness, that’s great news
Chester. Is he home now? Did he get
the flowers?

CHESTER
Didn’t see any flowers delivered,
but I was on my lunch break
earlier. I’m sure he got them.

Chester takes out a handkerchief and wipes his brow.
CHESTER
He actually went into work today.
Said he had a new outlook on life.

DAISY
Well, I’ll be darned. I was hoping
he would get out of that skybox he
calls a home. I know it’s been
tough for him. Oh, and I didn’t
actually put the arrangement
together. Sam did. He’s such a
great guy.

CHESTER
Sam? Is he a friend?

DAISY
Treats me like gold that Sam. One
of a kind.

CHESTER
(disappointed)
I can imagine he does. Well, I
better get back to my post. I just
wanted to let you know you should
be seeing Mr. Foxx soon.

He heads back across the street.

DAISY
(yells)
I’ll wait all night if that’s what
it takes.

EXT. PARK ACROSS FROM HUNTER’S CONDO - NIGHT

Daisy sits on a small fold-out chair and reads a newspaper
with the help of the bright park light. She peers over the
paper when any car nears Hunter’s building.

People pass by her cart and she rises when a COUPLE, holding
hands, stops. They look over Daisy’s sparse selection of
flowers.

DAISY
Well now, look at the two of you. I
see true love here, yes I do. Why
not show it with a lovely flower or
two. I’m sorry my supply is limited
this evening. It’s been a good day.
May I suggest a beautiful
carnation?
MALE CUSTOMER
What do you think honey?

The customer takes a five out of his wallet and hands it to Daisy. She pulls out the last five carnations she has and hands them to the lady.

DAISY
I hope these flowers bring you good tidings. Thank you for your generosity.

The couple continues on their walk.

Daisy pulls out her change purse and places the five into it.

A car screeches to a sudden stop across the street. A limousine then makes a fast U-turn towards Daisy’s side of the street. It comes to a quick halt.

The back door opens and Hunter stumbles out and falls to the ground. He picks himself up, then brushes himself off.

HUNTER
(inebriated)
Daisy. My beautiful Daisy. I’m so glad to see you.

Out of the limousine stumbles another of Hunter’s beautiful ONE NIGHT STANDS with a champagne bottle in hand.

She pulls down her very short skirt and grabs onto Hunter to balance herself. Hunter breaks the embrace and heads over to Daisy and gives her a tight squeeze. His date stumbles to the ground after losing her grip and drops and breaks the bottle.

ONE NIGHT STAND
(also inebriated)
Hey, there better be more of this upstairs. Give me a hand would ya?

She holds out her hand to no avail.

HUNTER
I can’t thank you enough for the flowers you sent. I just...

ONE NIGHT STAND
...Hey Hunter baby. I want to get up to that penthouse of yours and finish what we started in the limo.

She grabs onto him and plays with his half exposed chest. She looks Daisy up and down.
ONE NIGHT STAND
Who the hell is this bag lady and why are you talking to her?

HUNTER
Uh, she’s just someone I buy flowers from occasionally.

Daisy looks confused.

ONE NIGHT STAND
She lives on the street sweetie, why would you associate yourself with someone who lives on the street? Come on, let’s go. I think she even smells a little.

Daisy stares down Hunter.

The woman pulls Hunter in the direction of the condo. She grabs his crotch and he howls with excitement.

They get half way across the street with horns blaring as they cross. Hunter breaks the hold she has on him and he pushes her in the direction of the entrance.

He returns back to Daisy.

HUNTER
I’m sorry for that. She’s a bit out of control.

Hunter pulls out a wallet and tries to get it opened.

DAISY
(angry)
Well, she’s the one who has a bit of an odor I’d say. Guess it didn’t take long for you to get back into the swing of things. “Just someone you buy flowers from occasionally?” I would have thought more from you after all you’ve been through. I don’t need your charity and she certainly doesn’t deserve any of my flowers. Save your money.

Daisy begins to gather up her things.

Hunter pulls out a twenty dollar bill and tries to hand it to her. She refuses, so he throws it in her cart.
HUNTER
I’m so sorry Daisy, I just needed one more night out. I’m starting fresh tomorrow, I swear. Please take the money.

Daisy ignores him.

She doesn’t notice Hunters clumsy attempt to put his wallet back in his pants.

INSERT - WALLET FALLING TO GROUND AND ENDING UP UNDER CART

BACK TO SCENE

DAISY
See ya around Mr. Foxx. I may have to find a friendlier spot to work. Better get back to the shelter before it closes. I’m actually not homeless I’d like her to know. Looks like you have your hands full with that one.

Hunter backs away from Daisy.

HUNTER
I’m so sorry.

She once again ignores him.

ONE NIGHT STAND
(yells)
You better get over here if you want any of this.

She shimmies up and down as if she were still on a dance floor.

Hunter hangs his head and turns around and walks across the street.

The babe hangs all over him as they head towards the entrance.

Hunter turns one more time towards Daisy as she begins to push her cart away from her spot, then continues inside.

Daisy, once she has moved her cart, notices Hunter’s dropped wallet and picks it up.
DAISY
(to herself)
Oh no. He’s going to need this to pay his date off.

She pushes her cart off the sidewalk to secure it and runs after Hunter. She doesn’t look either way and out of nowhere the lights of a cab illuminate her.

Tires screech followed by a loud thump.

Hunter, already in the lobby, hears the noise and turns.

HUNTER
(to his date)
Wait here.

He bolts out the unattended door as the DOORMAN ON DUTY is half way to the scene.

Others are gathered around the cab.

Hunter makes his way around the cab as the driver hovers over a body.

HUNTER
(screams)
Someone call 9-1-1.

He moves closer to the scene and the first thing he sees is an outstretched arm with his wallet gripped in it’s hand.

He continues closer, pauses and see it’s Daisy who’s been hit.

He pushes the driver out of the way and picks her up in his arms and begins to cry.

INT. AMBULANCE - NIGHT

With sirens blaring, a still unconscious Daisy is attended to by PARAMEDICS.

Hunter, inside the ambulance, holds her hand.

HUNTER
(to Daisy)
Everything’s going to be all right. I promise.

(to paramedics)
She is going to be alright isn’t she?
Daisy slowly regains consciousness and tries to get up.

PARAMEDIC #1
(to Daisy)
There there, you need to take it easy and let us do our job.

PARAMEDIC #2
(to Hunter)
Do you know this woman? Is she related to you? What’s her name?

HUNTER
(confused)
Oh geez, all I know her by is Daisy. That’s the name I’ve been calling her ever since we met. Never actually got to know her real name.

PARAMEDIC #2
Well, we’ll need all that information ASAP. We didn’t find any identification on her.

HUNTER
Yes, yes, I’ll get that to you.

Hunter pulls out his cell phone and dials.

Daisy lays back down and closes her eyes.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR – NIGHT

Hunter paces back and forth in front of a closed door then stops when the door opens and a DOCTOR exits, clipboard in hand.

HUNTER
So? Is it serious? What’s the diagnosis?

DOCTOR
Well, it’s not too serious, she’s very lucky. She has a broken hip and a small leg fracture. Some facial abrasions from the fall as well. We’re doing tests to see if there is a concussion. There is some swelling. The scrapes will heal on their own but the hip could take some time.
HUNTER
Whew, good news. I’m just glad it’s not more serious. I couldn’t have lived with myself knowing I caused this to happen.

DOCTOR
I’m sure that’s how you’re feeling, but don’t do that to yourself young man. It could have been a lot worse, she’s very lucky.

Sierra rushes around a corner, followed by Sam. She hugs Hunter.

SAM
Where is she? Is she okay? I so worried. Thank you for having this lovely lady find me and bring me here. May I see her?

DOCTOR
She’ll be fine. She has some recuperating to do and some rehabilitation will be needed to get her walking again. That could take some time.

A NURSE appears with another clipboard in hand.

NURSE
Sorry to interrupt Doctor, but I need this patient’s information. Chances are she doesn’t have insurance and that will effect how her rehabilitation is handled. Does anyone know her name yet?

SAM
Yes, yes, I do. It’s Connie Scandura and any other information you need can be found at the shelter she stay at on 28th and 2nd. I can’t imagine she has insurance. Is rehab expensive?

HUNTER
I’ve got it. I will take care of it all doctor. My name is Hunter Foxx of Foxx Publishing and I’ll be responsible for any and all bills. It’s the least I can...

Sierra leans close into Hunter.
SIERRA
(whispers)
...Hunter, think about that for a second. This could cost a pretty penny. Please don’t feel you have to do this. You really don’t know her all that well. You didn’t even know her name.

HUNTER
(to Sierra)
It’s not about the money. I could buy this hospital if I wanted.
(to doctor)
Not that I’ll be doing that.

SAM
None of this matter now. When can we see her?

DOCTOR
It could be a while for her to gain consciousness, so I’ll let one of you stay in the room for the time being so if she does wake up she’ll see a familiar face.

HUNTER
I’ll do it if you don’t mind Sam. I need her to know how sorry I am for this happening.

Sam looks through the glass into Daisy’s room.

SAM
I understand. I wait my turn. I’ll be here all night so you no worry about me.

Sierra pulls Hunter aside.

SIERRA
You stay strong in there. It may not be as easy as you think. I know what hospitals do to you. I’ll be right outside this door if you need me.

Hunter hugs Sierra tight and then enters the room.
INSIDE DAISY’S HOSPITAL ROOM

Daisy, still asleep when Hunter enters, is hooked up to several machines.

Hunter takes a few steps then pauses as the woman in the bed he sees is his mother. He rushes over to her, sits down and strokes her hand. He breaks down and lowers his head.

HUNTER
Oh mother, sweet mother. I am so sorry it took me so long to get here. I’m here now, please forgive me.

Daisy begins to wake up to Hunter’s touch and hears him call her his mother. She strokes his hand back.

Hunter looks up at her touch and now sees it’s Daisy in bed.

DAISY
(groggy)
You sweet man. Your dear mother understands why. I’m sure you were a great son. She will always remember that.

HUNTER
Daisy, I’m so glad you’re going to be alright. I would have never recovered from this. I’m going to do everything in my power to make sure you get the best care.

DAISY
Oh Mr. Foxx, don’t be silly. That’s so kind of you to want to help me but I’ll be alright and...

HUNTER
...I know you’ll be okay Daisy, but I want to make it easier for you to recover. I won’t hear anything else about it. You’re going to come stay with me and that’s it. It’s about time you were treated like the lady you are. I won’t have you recuperating in some home that will care less about your welfare than me. I think it’s about time you start calling me Hunter.

Daisy looks away towards the window for a few seconds then looks back over at Hunter, tears in her eyes.
DAISY
I will do this on one condition.

HUNTER
Yes, yes. What would you like?

DAISY
As soon as I’m given the okay by the doctor, you’ll let me go back to the life I’ve been living.

HUNTER
(laughs through tears)
Why that’s not much to ask for, but I’m warning you, once you’re given the five star treatment by Mr. Hunter Foxx, you’ll never want to leave.

DAISY
(giggles)
Five star treatment huh? Just like the revolving door of women I’ve seen parading through that building of yours? Why haven’t they never wanted to leave? Wouldn’t having me around put a damper on that conga line?

Hunter stands up and goes over to the window to the hallway and motions for Sam to come in. He turns back to Daisy.

HUNTER
Believe me Miss Connie Scandura, yes I know your real name now, I’m putting those days on hold. I’ll practically become a monk if that’s what it takes.

Sam enters the room with an oversized floral arrangement.

DAISY
Sam. It’s so good to see you. Oh, how gorgeous are those.

She pats the bed for him to sit down next to her.

DAISY
Come on over here, I’m a bit tied up at the moment to come to you.
(to Hunter)
(MORE)
And we’ll talk about this monk idea of yours in more detail later, mister. Now go on and get yourself some rest.

Hunter leans in and kisses Daisy on the cheek.

Hunter pats Sam as they pass.

HUNTER
Don’t wear her out Sam.

SAM
You know it Mr. Foxx, I will just say hello.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - DAY

Sierra scurries around the condo as she fluffs pillows and straightens items on the furniture.

Hunter enters the living room. He holds what looks like a giant remote control tangled with several cords. He shakes it, frustrated.

HUNTER
They’ll be here any minute and I just can’t get this contraption to work. I want everything to be perfect, why can’t I get this hooked up right?

Sierra snatches it out of his hand.

SIERRA
Calm down Nervous Nancy. It can’t be that hard. Even if the bed’s not ready when they get here, it’s not like we’ll park her out in the hall and wait for her number to be called. Let me do it.

Sierra takes the mess of cords and heads to the bedroom.

HUNTER
Of course you’ll do it. You’ve done everything else for me. You even picked out her home health attendant. What’s her name again?

SIERRA (O.S.)
It’s Ginger. Like in Snap.
Hunter goes to the refrigerator, opens it and counts the contents.

    SIERRA (O.S.)
    And she’s got the attitude to match the name. I hope you two get along. I like her and better yet, so does Daisy.

Sierra appears at the door to the bedroom and pauses.

    SIERRA
    Done. Anything else I can do for you?

    HUNTER
    Just sit down and take five would you.

Sierra sits and flips through one of the organized magazines on the coffee table.

    HUNTER
    I better like this Ginger, she’s going to be around for a while. The doctors are saying Daisy’s rehab could take several months.

    SIERRA
    You are prepared for this right? I warned you that it would be a huge task to tackle.

    HUNTER
    My mother would want me to do this. Yes, I’m prepared.

The phone rings and Hunter answers.

    HUNTER
    Great, send them up.

He hangs up the phone and paces.

    HUNTER
    Oh wow, this is really happening isn’t it. It will be alright, I will get Daisy back on her feet again.

Sierra gets up, neatly places the magazine back, and goes to Hunter and grabs his hands.
SIERRA
Take a deep breath.

Hunter does.

SIERRA
What’s the worse that could happen?
Ginger ends up poisoning you and
they steal all your money?

Hunter throws Sierra’s hands down in frustration.

HUNTER
Why do you have to do that? Now
I’ll be worried about what I’m
eating from now on.

The door bell rings. Sierra, without being asked to do so,
heads over and opens the door.

Daisy, in a wheelchair with a pretty daisy covered quilt over
her lap, is pushed in the room by GINGER (25), a Latino woman
with her hair dyed bright red and pulled back in a tight bun.
She has oversized glasses pulled up on her head.

Daisy throws her hands in the air.

DAISY
(excited)
Here I am boys.

GINGER
This one’s wound up. She’s been
singing the whole way over here.
Where do you want her? She’s a bit
medicated I’ll warn you.

DAISY
Oh, never mind Ginger. She’s just
jealous she can’t carry a tune.
That could cause some problems in
the future.

Hunter steps up and tries to take the chair from Ginger.

HUNTER
Nice to finally meet you Miss...

Ginger does not let go of her grip on the chair and pushes
further into the room.

GINGER
It’s Miss Alvarez, but you can call
me Ginger, gracias.
(MORE)
Now let's get her set up in her room if that's okay.

Hunter backs off and gives Sierra a wide eyed look.

SIERRA
Welcome Ginger, hope the ride from the hospital wasn't a problem. We were hoping to have a light snack before we got Daisy into her room. We have some nice finger sandwiches and a variety of teas ready.

Ginger sets the brake on Daisy's wheelchair.

GINGER
Sure. Sounds good. So you all call her Daisy too? Fits her doesn't it. Such a pretty flower. I'm starving myself. Finger sandwiches? Is that from a pig or a cow? Didn't know either had fingers.

Hunter rolls his eyes and heads to the kitchen followed by Sierra.

HUNTER
(whispers)
Is she for real? Are you sure she was the best candidate?

SIERRA
Actually she was, Daisy got along great with her during her interview and I think she might be what she needs to recover quickly.

Hunter pulls out a platter from the refrigerator.

HUNTER
Okay, guess we'll just have to put up with her. Daisy's our main concern here.

Sierra puts together a tray with cups, saucers and a variety of teas and heads to the living room.

Ginger stares out the window.

GINGER
Holy crap. This view is amazing. Must have cost you a peso or two. I think we'll be just fine up here, don't you agree Miss Daisy?
DAISY
It is beautiful Hunter. I love how you’ve decorated the place as well. Just like out of a magazine.

Hunter places the platter on the coffee table and walks over to the window as well.

HUNTER
It’s been featured in several home magazines. I didn’t do any of it though. My mother and Sierra get most of the credit. I just signed the checks.

Sierra picks up the tea pot and begins to pour.

SIERRA
(to Hunter)
I’ve only known you for ten years, I think I know your tastes by now.
(to everyone)
So, anyone care for the Earl Grey? Or maybe the Ginseng?

GINGER
Have any Diet Pepsi in that fridge? I’m addicted to it. Might want to buy a couple a cases to have around. Tea makes me gassy. You don’t want to be around me when I’m gassy.

DAISY
Ginger, you have to put a filter on that mouth of yours. Don’t know if Hunter wants to hear about how gassy you are. Don’t get us kicked out before we’ve even had lunch.
(to Sierra)
I would love the Earl Grey sweetie. Look at how cute these sandwiches are, I just might have to try one of each.

Ginger grabs a plateful of sandwiches and sits down on the floor next to the table as she pops an entire sandwich in her mouth.

Hunter returns from the kitchen with the requested soda and is surprised to see Ginger on the floor. He hands her the drink.
HUNTER
You’re welcome to sit on the furniture you know. It’s quite comfortable.

GINGER
(in between bites)
Nah, I’m good. Don’t want to spill anything on your fine leather. Not that I’m a messy girl.

Ginger holds up a sandwich.

GINGER
These are muy bien by the way. Got any hot sauce?

INT. HUNTERS OFFICE - DAY

Hunter is at his desk, drink in hand.

Tyler is across the room on the couch with his feet up on the table, beer in hand.

TYLER
So buddy, how’s it going over there at Casa Crazy? Bet you’re ready to throw in the towel aren’t you?

HUNTER
So funny throwing the Spanish reference in there. It’s been quite the experience. That Ginger has taken over. She’s brass, crude, demanding...

TYLER
...Sounds like my kind of girl. When do I get to meet this spitfire? Any pictures?

HUNTER
Really Ty? She’d chew you up and leave no bones from the appetite I’ve seen on that one. But for as much as she eats, she’s got an awesome body from what I can tell through her scrubs.

TYLER
And how do we know this?

Hunter ignores Tyler and pushes a button on his intercom.
SIERRA (O.S.)
You can get your own refill.

HUNTER
Ha, ha. Could you come in here please, and bring the latest figures on this month’s expenses please.

Tyler stands up.

TYLER
I get it, I’m getting the old boot. I understand. But I still want to meet this Ginger you’ve been hiding.

HUNTER
I’m not hiding anyone. Come over anytime, see for yourself. Just don’t come when they’re in the middle of one of Daisy’s rehab sessions. That’s when she’s her bitchiest. I’m not kidding bro, she’s practically booted me out of my own place.

Sierra enters with a stack of folders.

Tyler bows and bids her adieu and heads to the door.

TYLER
Like I said, my type of girl.

Tyler tries to plant a kiss on an unreceptive Sierra as he exits.

SIERRA
Really?

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - NIGHT

Hunter enters the condo and finds it is empty. He places his briefcase on the counter and opens the refrigerator, grabs a beer and turns to find Ginger in very close proximity and jumps back.

HUNTER
Jesus Ginger, what the hell?

Ginger takes the bottle from Hunter and opens a drawer. She pulls out an opener, opens the beer and hands it back to him.
GINGER
You know I don’t like the lord’s name used in vain. Please be respectful. I just put Miss Daisy to bed, you need to keep it down.

Ginger turns to head back to the bedroom.

HUNTER
Ginger, wait. Can I ask you something? Why don’t you like me? What have I done wrong? I’ve thought I’ve bent over backwards to make you two feel at home here. Is it something I said? Something I did?

Ginger thinks for a second and returns back to Hunter.

GINGER
I’ve been doing this for a few years now and I guess it’s just my way of dealing with clients. I don’t want to get too attached since I’m only a temporary thing to you. It’s my defense mechanism I guess, and yes, you have been extremely kind to both of us and Miss Daisy loves you. I love that lady and I don’t want to see her hurt after all this is over.

HUNTER
Hurt, why would she be hurt? I’m going to make sure she is taken care of when she is ready. That’s always been my goal. There’s no need to worry about her.

GINGER
Well maybe you should tell her yourself. Like I said, I move on to the next patient and to know she’ll be alright gives me some hope that not all people are only out for themselves.

Hunter goes to the refrigerator and opens it.

HUNTER
Care to join me?

Ginger makes her way to the kitchen counter that separates the two and sits at one of the bar stools.
GINGER
I was just going to spend the rest of the evening watching my telenovela, so set me up bartender and how about a whiskey chaser to go with that?

INT. HUNTERS CONDO LOBBY - DAY
Hunter exits the elevator and heads towards the door.
Chester already has the door open for him.

HUNTER
Morning Chester, any sign of my driver?

CHESTER
Good day to you Mr. Foxx. I haven’t seen him this morning. How’s Miss Daisy doing with her rehabilitation? It’s been almost a month. Any chance we may see her getting out and about any time soon?

HUNTER
She’s doing pretty good. Says she’s been itching to get outside and test her strength. Maybe in the next few days Chester. Hey, why don’t you go up on one of your breaks and see her.

Hunter looks up and down the street, then pats Chester on the back and winks.

HUNTER
Besides, I know you have a little crush on her.

Chester, embarrassed, looks down.

CHESTER
I didn’t know it was that obvious.

HUNTER
It’s okay Chester, you’re secret is safe with me.

Hunter, sees his car pull up and begins to head to it before he turns back to Chester.
HUNTER
She could really use a visitor.
Seems like her friend Sam hasn’t been coming around.

Chester gives Hunter a tip of his hat goodbye and heads back to the lobby desk where LOUIS, the concierge, reads a newspaper.

CHESTER
Taking my break, be back in ten.
Save the sports section for me would you?

Chester goes behind the desk and enters a room with a love seat, a couple of tables and a small refrigerator.

Scattered around the room are several floral arrangements that range from fresh to almost dead.

He throws one of the dead ones in the garbage.

CHESTER
Yeah, too bad Sam’s not been around.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - DAY

Ginger is at one end of the condo with her eyes closed.

Daisy rolls into the living room from her bedroom in her wheelchair and stops.

DAISY
Okay, you can open your eyes now.

GINGER
Yeah? What’s so special I had to do all this for you?

DAISY
Just wait.

Daisy lifts herself up with all she has and begins to walk towards Ginger as her pace quickens.

GINGER
(excited)
Oh my goodness. Look at you. You been doing therapy behind my back haven’t you. Come on over here and give Ginger a hug.
Daisy makes it over to Ginger and the two hug. Ginger pulls away and steps back.

GINGER
Oooh, Miss Daisy, maybe you should sit back down.

Ginger helps Daisy sit in one of the living room chairs.

GINGER
You want me to bring the chair over?

DAISY
No, no. I’m okay here for now. That bed and that chair are getting the best of me.

GINGER
It won’t be too much longer the way you’re going. I can tell you’re a fighter you are. Want me to get you something to drink?

Ginger heads to the kitchen and opens the refrigerator.

DAISY
Any champagne in there? We should be celebrating.

Ginger appears at the counter with a champagne bottle.

GINGER
You know it girlfriend. Even if I’m on the clock, I don’t think Mr. Foxx would mind.

Ginger looks for champagne glasses.

DAISY
You actually care what Hunter thinks? That’s a breakthrough. You two go at each other like cats in heat. I know you like him, you just don’t want to show it.

Ginger pops the champagne and returns to the living room with the bottle and glasses.

GINGER
Now you’re talking crazy Miss Daisy. You sure you didn’t do more damage to yourself other than that hip of yours? He is so not my type.

(MORE)
I like my men with a little spice in them. He’s so white bread, I could spread some pb&j on him and eat him with a glass of milk.

DAISY
Spreading food on him are you? Sounds like a fantasy to me.

Ginger drinks her full glass in one gulp.

GINGER
Don’t go there. I have no fantasies about that man, trust me. Besides, he wouldn’t be interested in me anyway.

Daisy takes a dainty sip.

DAISY
He hasn’t seen the real you dear. I know there’s a hot tamale under that boring outfit you always wear. Got anything else in your closet? Maybe you should let your hair down. I bet he’d take notice. Ever think about contacts?

Ginger pours herself another glass and once again downs it.

GINGER
Look at you calling me a hot tamale. I’ll make a Latino hoochie out of you yet. I guess I could start showing up in something other than these sad sack scrubs. Who thought this would be a look women would enjoy. I’m sure it was some hombre who designed them. A straight one.

Daisy giggles and then hiccups. They both laugh out loud.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - DAY

Hunter enters the condo with Tyler right behind. Hunter stops and Tyler bumps into him.

Ginger, with her hair now down, is spread out on the couch asleep with Daisy still in a chair, her head hung down to her chest and a light snore heard.
The coffee table has two champagne bottles on it with tortilla chips and salsa all over.

HUNTER
(loud)
What the hell?

Ginger leaps up and shakes Daisy awake. She tries to put her hair back up but it falls back down.

TYLER
Looks like we’re late for the party buddy.

GINGER
Oh no. I’m so sorry Mr. Foxx. We were just celebrating Miss Daisy’s first walk on her own and kind of let it get out of hand.

Ginger begins to pick things up.

Tyler hurries over and picks up the chip bowl.

TYLER
Let me give you a hand. Hello, I’m Tyler Bennett. You must be the infamous Ginger I’ve been hearing about.

Hunter rolls his eyes and heads over to Daisy.

Ginger and Tyler go to the kitchen, hands full.

HUNTER
You okay? I’m a little surprised to see you’ve been drinking. In the middle of the day.

Daisy straightens up and tries to pull herself together.

HUNTER
Would you like to go to bed for a while? Maybe back in your chair?

DAISY
Don’t fuss over me young man. I’ve been known to throw back a drink or two in my day. It just got a little out of hand this afternoon. We had some deep, engrossing conversations. I learned a lot about that wonderful woman in there. Maybe you should as well.

(MORE)
DAISY (CONT'D)

(whispers)
She was living on the street at sixteen and look what she’s achieved.

Hunter looks over at the kitchen and notices Tyler in close proximity to Ginger as the two laugh.

HUNTER
Hey Tyler, could you come in here a sec?

Tyler motions to Ginger to give him a second and hurries over to his friend.

TYLER
What’s up?

HUNTER
What are you two chatting about in there? I don’t think I’ve seen her laugh the whole time she’s been here.

TYLER
Oh, you know. Just trying to get to know her a little better. You never told me how hot she is you sly dog. I think I’m going to ask her out. That’s okay with you two isn’t it?

Daisy and Hunter exchange looks and Daisy shrugs her shoulders.

DAISY
Well, I for one, think that’s a wonderful idea. She could use a good night out on the town. Just don’t party it up like your usual dates. She deserves better than...

HUNTER
...Uh, yeah, okay by me. I’ll even make the reservations. How about...

DAISY
...Hey, I have an idea. Why don’t you join them, make it a double date. You young ones still do that don’t you?
TYLER
I’m cool with that.
(to Hunter)
You?

Ginger comes back into the living room with a towel and furniture cleaner.

GINGER
Cool with what?

Tyler picks up the last few things on the table.

TYLER
I know it’s kind of soon, but I was wondering if you’d do me the honor and go to dinner this Saturday.

HUNTER
(under his breath)
Oh geez.

DAISY
And I’ve suggested Hunter as a chaperone. I think you’d really enjoy both these fine young gentlemen’s company.

HUNTER
I’ll be bringing a date as well. It won’t be like I’m chaperoning the two of you. Just a good old double date is all.

GINGER
That sounds great. Maybe we can go out dancing after. Hope you know how to samba. Might be hard to keep up with me on the dance floor.

Ginger wipes down the table and heads back to the kitchen.

TYLER
This is going to be fun.

Daisy looks over at Hunter and grins.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO LOBBY - NIGHT

Hunter exits the elevator, dressed for a night out on the town.
Chester, flower arrangement in hand, sees Hunter enter the lobby and throws the flowers down quickly behind the lobby desk.

Louis is jolted out of his seat by the breaking vase.

Sam, through the lobby glass, is seen heading across the street away from the building.

CHESTER
(to Louis)
Don’t say a thing. I’ll get that later.

Chester runs over to the greet Hunter as he heads to the door.

CHESTER
Good evening Mr. Foxx. Heading out? It’s been quite a while for you. Did you need a taxi?

Hunter pulls out his cell and dials.

HUNTER
That’s okay Chester, I’m on it. (into phone) Hey, are you close? Great, I’m outside waiting.

CHESTER
And how is Miss Daisy doing? Will Ms. Alvarez be attending to her this evening?

HUNTER
Better and better thanks. She’s actually responsible for this evening happening. Seems like I’m going on a double date with Ms. Alvarez, I mean Ginger, and my buddy Tyler. Daisy thought it would be a good idea if I tagged along.

CHESTER
Oh? So Miss Daisy will be all alone tonight? Shall I check in on her later?

Hunter’s car pulls up and the back window rolls down. Sierra sticks her head out and waves Hunter over.

Chester opens the door for Hunter and he heads out.
HUNTER
I think that would be a good idea. Even though she insists she’s okay, I’d feel better with someone she knows around. Just don’t keep her up late.

He winks at Chester and goes to his car.

CHESTER
(yells)
I’ll be quite the gentleman sir.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Hunter and Sierra sit in a booth with a view of the door. Hunter, nervous, nibbles a bread stick.

Sierra texts on her phone.

SIERRA
What’s up with you tonight?

HUNTER
What do you mean?

He continues to chomp on his bread stick.

Sierra puts her phone away and looks Hunter in the eyes.

SIERRA
Why are you so uptight? It’s not like this is a real date you know. Well, at least with us it isn’t.

Hunter looks over Sierra’s shoulder when the door opens and then looks back at the bread basket and begins to play with the variety of breads.

Sierra slaps his hand.

SIERRA
Oooh, gross. Don’t be putting your germs on all the bread Hunter.

HUNTER
Was just looking to see if there was any pumpernickel.

(giggles)
Pumpernickel, what a funny word.
SIERRA
Okay mister. Fess up. What’s going on?

Hunter, once again looks towards the door, smiles and waves.

HUNTER
They’re here.

Tyler, with his hand on Ginger’s waist, approaches their table.

TYLER
Hey guys, sorry we’re late. We actually had to circle around the block a few times, we were having such a good time.

Ginger, with her hair down and blown out and now without glasses, looks hot in a form fitting dress. She slaps Tyler on the arm and laughs.

GINGER
(excited)
That was my first ride in a limo. Did you know there’s free liquor in those things?

Hunter mouths the words A LIMO for only Tyler to see. Tyler grins and shrugs it off.

Sierra moves over in the booth to allow the two to sit down.

Tyler sees that Sierra is Hunter’s date and gives him a look of disappointment.

SIERRA
Wow, Ginger, look at you. I would have never known it was you. You look amazing. Where did you get that dress?

Ginger settles into the booth and flips her hair.

GINGER
You like? I usually don’t wear something so tight, but I saw it at TJ MAXX and when I saw it was marked down I just had to get it.

HUNTER
(uncomfortable)
Well, no matter where you bought it, you look great in it.
Tyler leans in to kiss Ginger.

TYLER
(whispers)
Bet you look just as good out of...

Ginger pulls away and gives Tyler a shocked look.

HUNTER
Shall we get you two a drink?

Hunter waves over the waiter.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - NIGHT

Chester, now with his jacket and hat off, sits on one of the living room chairs across from Daisy on the couch.

Chester stands, glass in hand.

CHESTER
May I freshen your drink?

Daisy takes a look at her glass, takes a sip, then hands it to him.

DAISY
Yes, you may. What a pleasant surprise, your coming up to visit me Chester.

Chester heads to the kitchen.

CHESTER
When I heard you were going to be all alone up here and I was ending my shift, I felt it was my duty to offer my companionship. I do hope it’s been working out with you staying here.

Chester fills up the glasses.

DAISY
Oh, it’s been heaven. I feel like I’ve won the lottery these past couple of months. He’s been so great to me.

Chester returns and hands her a drink.
CHESTER
I have to admit, I’ve seen a change in Mr. Foxx since you’ve moved in.

DAISY
Oh have you? And, not to correct you, but I have not moved in. I’ll be leaving as soon as I am given the okay to do so by the doctors. I wouldn’t want to put a damper on Hunter’s lifestyle any longer than need be.

CHESTER
That’s just it, I feel your being here has turned things around for him. After his mother passed, he was a mess.

DAISY
He doesn’t talk about her much. I’m surprised to not see any pictures of her around either. I haven’t wanted to pry into their relationship.

Chester takes a long sip.

CHESTER
I think I may have a picture of the both of them.

Chester pulls out his wallet and flips through it. He gets up and sits down next to her on the couch. He moves closer.

CHESTER
They were heading out to go to a fund raiser for the president. She looked so beautiful that night.

INSERT - PICTURE OF CHESTER WITH HUNTER AND HIS MOTHER

BACK TO SCENE

Daisy shifts herself a little bit from Chester’s close proximity.

DAISY
She was lovely Chester, and look how handsome Hunter looked that night. He had a sparkle in his eye. You can see the love.
CHESTER
A sparkle as lovely as yours Miss Daisy.

Chester moves in even closer.

DAISY
Chester, you may have had a bit too much to drink. You may not be seeing things too clearly at the moment.

CHESTER
Oh, I’ve seen things clearly for months now...

Chester moves in even closer.

CHESTER
...and I like what I’ve seen.

Chester leans in for a kiss as Daisy’s eyes open wide.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The dinner table is now cleared of their dinner plates. A near empty bottle of wine remains.

Hunter and Ginger, with Sierra in between them, are engaged in a deep conversation. Sierra, uncomfortable, tries to stay out of their way.

Tyler, intoxicated, fills up his empty glass and holds up the empty bottle to get the waiter’s attention to replace it.

HUNTER
(laughs)
No you didn’t. How did J-LO respond to that? I would have kicked your butt.

Ginger puts up her fists in a fighting pose.

GINGER
It would be her big ass butt that would have got the kickin’.

They both break out in flirtatious laughter.

Tyler rolls his eyes and finishes his wine.
SIERRA
I have to go to the ladies room if you don’t mind.

Hunter does not take his eyes off Ginger.

HUNTER
Oh yeah, sure.

Hunter scoots out of the booth to allow Sierra to exit. He sits back down but moves next to Ginger.

HUNTER
This has been such a great night.

GINGER
Are we still going dancing?

Ginger turns to a now disinterested Tyler.

GINGER
You ready to get your groove on?

TYLER
Groove on? What decade are you from?

HUNTER
Come on Ty. Why don’t you ease up a bit. Maybe have some coffee?

TYLER
I’m sorry Ginger, didn’t mean to make you feel bad. Sure, I’ll have a coffee, but with a little shot of Kaluaha to cool it down.

Tyler looks around for a waiter.

Hunter looks at his watch.

HUNTER
I think we can stay out a little bit later. Did you have a place in mind? Daisy should be fine, I’m sure she’s in bed by now.

GINGER
Miss Daisy is, and always will be, fine. She thinks the world of you.
TYLER
I’m going to go get that drink at the bar. The service around here sucks. Who picked it anyway?

GINGER
(annoyed)
I did. I’ve always wanted to try it. Sorry it didn’t live up to your expectations.

Tyler gets up from the booth.

TYLER
You two keep your conversation going. Don’t let me interrupt.

Tyler heads to the bar and intercepts Sierra as she returns to the table and pulls her to the bar with him.

HUNTER
I think having her around really made me feel like a little bit of my mother was still here. They have some similar qualities. Very strong those two.

Hunter slaps the table to change the subject then pulls out his wallet.

HUNTER
Let’s go take this fun to the dance floor, what do you say?

GINGER
Let’s do it. I don’t want this evening to end.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO – DAY

Daisy is on her rehab table with Ginger, back in her scrubs but still with her new look, working on her leg.

DAISY
Okay, all this silence is killing me. How was last night? You’ve been smiling ever since you got here this morning. Glad to see you’re not hung-over.
GINGER
Oh Miss Daisy, it was so good. He’s a lot more fun than I ever thought he could be. And his dancing? Oooh girl, let me tell you that man has some rhythm. Those hips don’t lie.

Ginger rubs Daisy harder.

DAISY
Alright, alright. I get it. But you can bring the intensity level down a bit. I could break.

GINGER
Oh mommy, I’m so sorry. Got a little carried away there.

DAISY
I’m so glad that you and Tyler got along. I wasn’t expecting that.

Hunter enters the living room still groggy. He perks up when he sees Ginger.

Ginger smiles as they make eye contact.

GINGER
Good morning Mr. Hunter. Sorry if I kept you out too late last night. Are you hurting? Maybe I could give you a rubdown after I’m through here with Miss Daisy.

Daisy sits up and gives Ginger an inquisitive look.

Hunter heads to the kitchen.

GINGER
There’s a pot already made.

HUNTER
Thank you Ginger, that was sweet of you.

DAISY
What’s going on between you two? What happened last night?

She gets up and Ginger helps her off the table.
GINGER
Let’s just say it was a fun night and leave it at that. Now let’s get you doing your leg lifts.

Daisy begins to lift her legs with Ginger’s support.

Hunter enters the living room and lays down on the couch.

HUNTER
Looking good there Daisy. Hey, did Chester ever make it up here last night? I said it was okay as long as he didn’t stay too long.

DAISY
Oh, he came up alright. And no, he didn’t stay long. Let’s just say he may be afraid to come up any time soon.

GINGER
Oh? Was he too boring? You need a younger man to play with.

DAISY
Ginger, please. My playing days are as old as I am. He just got a little fresh is all.

Hunter sits up, his face begins to get flush.

HUNTER
What are you saying? Did he make a move on you? I’ll see his ass fired.

Hunter heads to his bedroom.

DAISY
Hunter sweetie, wait a sec. I’m fine. Chester’s just had a little crush on me. I put that fire out quickly. All he got was half way through a kiss before I gave him a good ole slap to back him off. He was very sorry and promised it wouldn’t happen again.

GINGER
Maybe having me around has rubbed off on you. Don’t be letting no man take advantage of you Miss Daisy.
Hunter comes to the door of his bedroom and pauses.

HUNTER
Okay, if you say so. I’ll still be having a talk with him though. His last words to me were that he was going to be a gentleman.

He heads back to the couch.

HUNTER
So, changing the subject here, it’s a beautiful Sunday morning, what’s on the agenda today?

DAISY
Well, I for one would love to get out of this palace in the sky and try out this hip of mine. What do you say Ginger? I’ll even treat you to a Starbucks and muffin.

Ginger looks over to Hunter for approval and he nods. He picks up the paper and begins to thumb through it.

HUNTER
I think that’s a great idea. Just don’t over do it. And take the chair please. Just in case you tire yourself out.

Daisy goes to the couch, leans in close to Hunter and moves the paper from his face and gives him a little peck on the cheek.

DAISY
Just a little sugar to go with your coffee.

Daisy heads to her bedroom.

Ginger puts away the massage table.

Hunter pulls out some bills from his pocket and hands Ginger a twenty.

HUNTER
Here, breakfast is on me.

Ginger takes the paper from Hunter’s hand and throws it out of the way and leans in and gives Hunter a long kiss.
GINGER
That’s how you give someone sugar
papi.

Hunter, dazed, tries to speak but nothing comes out.

Ginger heads to Daisy’s room and turns to see Hunter’s eyes
on her, smiles and blows him a kiss as she leaves the room.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREET - DAY

Daisy walks at a slow but determined pace. She nibbles on her
muffin.

Ginger pushes her empty chair, coffee in hand.

GINGER
Doing good there Miss Daisy? I have
to say, I’m very impressed with how
far we’ve walked without your
chair.

DAISY
Just a little bit further dear.

They round a corner where Sam’s bodega is on the opposite
corner. Daisy squints to see if he is around.

A SMALLISH WOMAN, with her back to the pair, is dressed in
what looks like an old torn dress and messy hair.

Sam comes out of the side door with a vase filled with a
beautiful arrangement and hands it to the woman.

OVER AT SAM’S BODEGA

SAM
I want you to get these to your
mother soon as possible. Maybe
these will perk her up. I so proud
of you granddaughter that you have
gotten into college. You make our
family proud. Now go on, get these
home.

GRANDDAUGHTER
Thank you grandfather. I will do my
best. I truly want you to be happy.
I want nothing but the best for
you. You need to go out, try
something new.
She messes his hair up.

GRANDDAUGHTER
Maybe get a new haircut.

They both laugh. He kisses her cheek.

BACK ACROSS THE STREET

Daisy smiles when she sees Sam but huffs and puffs when she sees him kiss a woman.

The granddaughter leaves with the flowers.

Sam looks across the street and takes a double take at the two women. He struggles to see clearer.

DAISY
Let’s go. I’m feeling tired all of a sudden.

GINGER
Fine by me. I was getting a little tired myself after last night. Did I tell you how that man kept me on the dance floor for hours?

Daisy sits down in her wheelchair.

DAISY
Yeah, yeah. He’s got moves like Jagger. Let’s get me home.

Ginger tosses her coffee in the trash and begins to push.

DAISY
(mumbles to herself)
That two timing snake in the grass, that’s why he hasn’t been around.

GINGER
Speak up Miss Daisy. What’s up with the attitude all of a sudden?

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - DAY

Hunter, on the couch with his eyes closed, sings along with some very loud music.

The door opens as if someone has kicked it in and Daisy, now out of her chair, shuffles in.
Ginger rolls the chair in behind her.

Daisy stops dead in her tracks as she listens to a few bars of the song she hears.

Hunter jumps up as he notices this.

    HUNTER
    Great music isn’t it. My mother used to play this album all the time when I was young. I’ve always wondered why they never made another album. Are you familiar with them?

Hunter picks up the album jacket from the coffee table.

Daisy continues onto her bedroom. She pauses at her door and turns to Hunter.

    DAISY
    Familiar? Take a closer look at that cover sweetie. That’s me in the middle.

INSERT - ALBUM COVER

The album shows three young women sitting on a car in tight cheerleader sweaters. The names PATTI, CONNIE, and CINDY appear over each girl with a heart dotting the I in each name. The title of the album, THE HEARTBEATS, is seen.

    FADE OUT.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - DAY

Ginger strokes a teary eyed Daisy’s hand.

Hunter sits across from them but leans in close.

The three remain silent for several seconds.

    DAISY
    And that’s why we never made another album.

    HUNTER
    I’m so sorry Daisy. The last thing I wanted to do was make you unhappy.

Daisy reaches her hand out and Hunter takes it in his.
DAISY
Oh no dear. You’ve not made me
unhappy. I did that to myself. I’ve
let those two lead me on a path I
just couldn’t find my way off of.
You’ve brought nothing but
happiness into my life this past
year.

Ginger now wipes away a tear.

Daisy squeezes Ginger’s hand tighter.

DAISY
You both have.

GINGER
But Miss Daisy, what happened to
you after you left? How did you end
up living on the street? I mean,
it’s none of our business, but it
sounds like you had so much talent.
Why did you let it go to waste?

HUNTER
Ginger, now we don’t need to be
bringing up her past if she’s not
ready to do so.

GINGER
(to Hunter)
Oh yes, you’re right.
(to Daisy)
You just take your time, we have
all day.

Ginger settles back and grabs a pillow to hold.

Hunter laughs and shakes his head. He gets up.

DAISY
Well dear, it could take all day
but I won’t bore you with the whole
story. I’ll just give you
highlights.

HUNTER
Well, I’ll need some more coffee if
you have a tale to tell. Anyone
else?

Ginger and Daisy both shake their heads no to his offer.
DAISY
Well, after I left the bastard and the group, I went back to school. I wanted to be a teacher.

GINGER
No.

DAISY
(giggles)
Can you imagine me, a teacher?

Hunter returns.

HUNTER
You’d been a damn good one I bet.

DAISY
Thank you Hunter. Well, let’s see, around that same time I got involved with the anti-war groups that were big at the time and through that I met my second husband, PETER. Not long after that, LITTLE PETEY came along and...

GINGER
...You have a son? Oh my goodness. Were you able to finish with your schooling?

DAISY
No, I did what you were supposed to do in those days. Stay home and take care of your child while the husband does his thing. Peter traveled a lot with his job and his thing was to do every intern that he would come across.

HUNTER
Come on Daisy. Really? Two men who cheated? And to someone as sweet as you? That’s why I’m not getting married anytime soon. I want to get all that out of my system.

GINGER
Oh do you now? And just how much more is left in your system?
DAISY
I’m sure Hunter’s days of cavorting are near their expiration date. I think having me around all this time has put out that flame as eternal as he’d like to think it was, I think he’s a changed man now.

HUNTER
You think you’ve got me all figured out huh?

DAISY
More than you know Hunter. More than you know.

GINGER
(to Hunter)
Let Miss Daisy finish her story. We’ll get to yours. Later.
(to Daisy)
Please go on. What happened next?

DAISY
Well, after years of trying to make ends meet for me and little Petey, I finally was all alone when he went off to college. Long story short, he got involved with drugs and before I could blink an eye, I was burying him and truly left all alone.

Daisy looks off in the distance as her eyes begin to tear up.

Hunter and Ginger exchange glances and Ginger motions with her head for Hunter to come back over.

He moves over to the couch and takes Daisy’s hand in his.

DAISY
I’m okay, I’m okay. I know what the loss of your mother means to you. I, too, have a hole in my heart. No one should ever lose a child. If I would have only been a better mother to him. I should have been stricter and not have allowed him as much freedom as I gave.

Hunter’s eyes widen as he hears his mother’s voice.
CAROLYN (V.O.)
I should have been stricter and not have allowed him as much freedom as I gave.

GINGER
Hunter? Mr. Hunter? You okay?

Hunter snaps back to reality.

DAISY
I’m sorry dear, was it something I said?

HUNTER
Oh, no, not really what you said? It’s what my mother should have said to me. I was a terrible son. Yes, she should have been stricter. Yes, she should have put the reigns on me.

DAISY
But Hunter, the past is something we can not change. It’s the future we have control over. From the first time you bought a flower from me, I saw my son in you. I saw that same twinkle in your eye that he had. It made my heart sing again. Seeing you every morning gave me something to look forward to.

GINGER
Awww, that is so sweet. And look at the two of you now. Two lost souls who found each other.

Hunter and Daisy hug. Hunter tears up and doesn’t let go.

HUNTER
Yes we sure have.

EXT. PARK ACROSS FROM HUNTER’S CONDO – DAY

Sam rounds the corner of the park where Daisy usually has her cart set up and pauses. He looks over at Hunter’s condo, notices that Chester is not at his post and heads over.
BACK TO HUNTER’S CONDO

GINGER
Okay now. I don’t mean to change the subject again, but tell Hunter how that woman you took care of all those years left you nothing but the clothes in your closet. How her family basically threw you out on the street. How...

DAISY
...How I was able to have a wonderful life for the past 30 years? Now Ginger, it wasn’t as bad as you’re making it out to be. Yes, Mrs. Chadwick did end up losing her battle with cancer in the end after years of dementia. And yes, her ungrateful children didn’t want me getting anything. But she was very kind to me and made me feel like family. I can’t hold it against her for not making sure I was taken care of. I think those ingrates forged her will, but hey, what could I do.

GINGER
And that’s how you ended up on the streets?

DAISY
Well, I wasn’t getting paid all those years. She fed me and gave me a roof over my head but I had nothing at the end. I tried getting another aid position but at my age, no one was wanting me. I had no family left and I just let things go from bad to worse.

The telephone rings and Hunter gets up to answer it.

HUNTER
Wow, now we’re getting somewhere. Hold on a sec.
(into phone)
Hello? Why yes, we were expecting Mr. Li. Send him up.

Daisy hears Sam’s name and gives Ginger an angry look.
GINGER
Uh, I don’t think Miss Daisy’s up to a visit right now. Maybe we should get her to bed.

They both get up and head to the bedroom.

DAISY
Yes. I think that would be a good idea. I’ll finish up my story after a little nap.

HUNTER
Alright, alright. What’s going on here? Is it Sam? You two haven’t seen each other in forever, I thought you’d want him to come up.

DAISY
Oh, I’ve seen him recently and he looked like he was doing pretty good for himself. I’ll be in my room.

She continues onto her room as Ginger looks back at Hunter and mouths the words, SEND HIM AWAY.

The door bell rings just as the two make it to the bedroom door and Daisy stops and turns to Hunter.

DAISY
On second thought, let me get that.

Hunter, with his hand on the door, lets go and backs away.

Daisy stops to check herself in the nearby mirror then opens the door.

Sam pulls out a single daisy from behind his back and holds it in front of him when he sees it’s Daisy who’s opened the door.

Daisy snatches the flower from his hand and slams the door in his face.

HUNTER
What was that about?

Daisy turns from the door and heads towards her room.

GINGER
I wasn’t expecting that Miss Daisy. I know that we caught him with another woman earlier...
HUNTER

...Whoa, wait a sec. You caught Sam with another woman? You were only going for a short walk I thought. I’m going to see what this is all about.

Hunter opens the front door, with Sam already at the elevator down the hall, and waves him back to his condo.

DAISY

It’s no big deal. We weren’t really dating or anything. We’ve been friends for years. Guess it took seeing him kissing someone to bring out a side of me I didn’t know existed anymore. You know what, yeah, bring him back. Let’s get to the bottom of this.

She heads to the couch as Ginger follows.

GINGER

I’m here for you mommy. You just give him a piece of your mind if you have to.

Daisy sits down and poses.

Sam shows up at the door.

HUNTER

(whispers to Sam)

You have some explaining to do guy. Come on in to the Lion’s den.

He steps away from the entrance to allow a puzzled Sam to enter. Sam stops when he sees Daisy.

SAM

Miss Connie? My apologies for not see you sooner. I was told you were not able to until you all better. I do hope you enjoyed all the flowers I send you.

Daisy, confused, looks over at Ginger. Ginger shrugs her shoulders.

DAISY

You never sent flowers. That’s a horrible thing to say.
SAM
But I did, I did. Every time I visit, that doorman took flowers and said they would get to you but no one allowed to see you.

Hunter takes Sam and leads him to a chair.

HUNTER
Chester? Really? He never mentioned flowers being delivered. Did he say anything to you Ginger?

GINGER
No sir, not to me either. Now why would he take flowers from Sam and then not deliver them?

DAISY
Oh, I know why. This makes more sense now. Chester must have felt Sam was a threat.

HUNTER
Sam, what’s this about you kissing another woman earlier?

GINGER
Don’t deny it, we saw you kissing and hugging all over some homeless woman at your shop this morning.

Sam ponders for a moment.

SAM
Homeless woman? Kissing? No, not me.

Sam thinks some more.

DAISY
Sam, it’s not like you to lie to me. Not telling the truth will always come back to bite you in the butt. And you don’t have much to spare there.

Daisy winks Ginger’s way. Ginger holds a laugh in.

HUNTER
She’s not going to let you out of here without an explanation, so I’d fess up if I were you.
SAM
Kissing? Hmm. Oh no. You saw me with my granddaughter. She was there to pick up flowers for her mother. She not doing well, bad flu.

GINGER
Your granddaughter? She looked in pretty bad shape from what we saw.

Sam hangs his head in shame.

SAM
She dress very badly, I know. She not listen to her family. It’s her generation that force her to do so. I should not be ashamed for she is my granddaughter, but I try to tell her she only bring shame to herself.

GINGER
You always give your granddaughter such a passionate kiss?

SAM
I gave her kiss on cheek. We not show our love in great ways. It must have looked like we did so. I apologize if it seemed so.

DAISY
No Sam, we are the ones who should apologize. I never thought I would feel jealous over you being with a woman. In all the years I’ve known you, you’ve never even glanced at a pretty woman that passed your shop.

Hunter gets up and heads to the kitchen.

HUNTER
I don’t know about anyone else, but I’m going to need a drink with all this drama unfolding. Anyone joining me?

GINGER
(excited)
We should do margaritas.

Ginger jumps off the couch and runs over to join Hunter in the kitchen. They begin to gather the ingredients playfully.
SAM
(blushes)
How could I glance at other
beautiful women when I had you to
look at every day.

DAISY
Oh my, Sam, I can’t believe you’re
finally admitting this. I knew you
were special from the first time I
came to you. We have a long history
you and I. Why we never took it to
the next level, your guess is as
good as mine.

Sam moves over to sit next to her and takes the flower he
brought from her hand.

SAM
I was afraid. I not want you to
think I want to be with you out of
pity of your situation. It broke my
heart when you out on street after
she passed. I want to take you in
myself right then and there, but I
knew you too proud.

DAISY
So, are you going to give me my
daisy or not?

Sam places the flower in her hair and caresses her face. She
places her hand on his.

SAM
I so sorry for not taking advantage
of you all these years. Oh wait,
that not come out right.

Daisy leans in for a kiss and a nervous Sam reciprocates.

Hunter and Ginger return with a tray of margaritas and are
stopped in their tracks by what is taking place.

HUNTER
Wow, leave these two alone for a
minute and look what happens.

The couple break apart.

GINGER
You go Miss Daisy. Don’t let Mr.
Hunter make fun of you. He’s just
jealous.
Ginger puts the pitcher down and takes two of the glasses from Hunter’s tray and hands them to Daisy and Sam.

HUNTER
Busted. How could I allow my lady to just make out with another man in my home.

He winks at her.

DAISY
(flustered)
Oh. I. I apologize Hunter. It just felt like the right thing to do. Getting Sam to finally show me some attention was a long time coming. I’m a patient woman, but this was ridiculous Sam.

Sam scoots an appropriate distance away from Daisy and smiles.

SAM
I sorry Mr. Foxx, I not usually throw myself on a lady, it will not happen again.

DAISY
Oh?

SAM
In public I mean.

HUNTER
So you and Sam have known each other for some time now. How long has it been?

DAISY
Oh gosh, going on fourteen, fifteen years I’d guess. The old lady loved flowers and would send me out daily to bring back fresh ones for her room.

SAM
I know exactly how long it been. Fifteen years, five months and three days.

DAISY
Oh my. And you can’t remember the seconds as well?
They all laugh as Hunter refills glasses.

HUNTER
That’s a long time to be flirting with someone and not do something about it.

DAISY
Well, some of us just don’t do the express lane flirt and run.

HUNTER
Touche. Okay, now let’s get back to this story of your group. Did you stay in contact with your two friends? I know Patti ended up being a bitch, it was Patti wasn’t it? But what happened to the other one?

DAISY
Yes, it was Patti, and no, we’ve not had any contact since then. I did hear that Dominic left her for another singer after Patti had the baby, but I don’t know what ever became of her. Cindy, the other one, married a wealthy record producer but he didn’t want her to spend the rest of her life singing, so she’s probably been living a pretty nice life since then.

Daisy takes a big gulp and hiccups.

SAM
(confused)
What’s this about a group?

GINGER
You better slow down, I think these margaritas are getting to you. You should eat.

DAISY
(to Sam)
I’ll fill you in on it later.

HUNTER
Yeah, let’s order us some Chinese. Oh, sorry Sam. Is that okay with you? I’d understand if you wanted something else.
INT. TYLER’S RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

Hunter and Tyler sit at the control board as a BAND exits the studio.

TYLER
Great job guys, we’ll meet up again after lunch. Just be on time please.

The last member that exits flips him off.

HUNTER
Can you help me buddy? I really think this could be something special if it worked out.

TYLER
Man, I know I owe you like twenty favors at last count, but this is asking a lot.

HUNTER
It can’t be that hard these days with the internet and all. You can find out anything online now. Just give it a try.

Tyler looks up at the ceiling for a few seconds then back at Hunter.

TYLER
Give me all the info you’ve got and I’ll see what I can find out for you.

HUNTER
You’re the best. I just figured with your family’s connections in the music industry, it would be an easier way to do this.

Hunter pulls out a piece of paper from his wallet and hands it to Tyler.
HUNTER
They were called THE HEARTBEATS, mid sixties and their names were Patti Dimarco, Cindy Bradburn and of course you know Daisy. She’s actually Connie Scandura. They only made a couple of albums on some obscure label that’s no longer in existence. Patti tried pursuing a solo career and Cindy married some big time producer a few years later. Daisy thinks her married name is Ammerman. Not sure how that’s spelled.

Tyler looks over the info.

TYLER
Okay, let me get these last few tracks done for my group and I’ll get on it.

HUNTER
I can even have Sierra help if that will make it easier. She loves doing research and she’s really formed a bond with Daisy over these past few months.

TYLER
Sure, because we get along sooo great. I think she’s got a thing for me and just tries to hide it, but I’ll take all the help I can get.

Hunter gets up and pats Tyler on the back and heads for the door.

HUNTER
Find these women for me and you’ll be debt free my friend.
(checks his watch)
Gotta get going, meeting someone for lunch.

TYLER
How is Ginger by the way?

Hunter heads to the door and turns to Tyler as he exits.

HUNTER
So glad you needed a chaperone.
Tyler throws a small piece of equipment at Hunter, just missing him.

TYLER
Get out of here you lady stealer.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREET – DAY

Sierra weaves in and out of a crowded city sidewalk. She waves across the street as she sees Tyler on the opposite corner. She crosses and they hug.

TYLER
Walk with me, I only have a few minutes. What did you find for me? Are you hungry?

Tyler, at a brisk pace, begins to walk as Sierra tries to keep up.

SIERRA
(sarcastic)
Wow, how could I refuse that kind of offer. Why are you still single?

They stop at a hot dog stand.

TYLER
(to vendor)
Give me one with everything. Add a water.
(to Sierra)
What’s your pleasure?

SIERRA
(to vendor)
I’ll just have a hot dog with mustard please. Nothing to drink thank you.
(to Tyler)
Well, I found them.

Tyler hands the vendor money and takes the hot dogs from him. He gets his change and hands Sierra her hot dog. He turns away from the stand.

SIERRA
Geez, Tyler. That tip jar is there for a reason.

Tyler fumbles through his bills and stuffs a couple in a jar.
TYLER
That’s great. You don’t waste any time do you.

SIERRA
It actually wasn’t that hard. Cindy was very easy to find, the producer guy she married actually had a decent career with several top clients over the years. He passed away about ten years ago and she made out big time.

Sierra struggles to hold her hot dog as she opens her briefcase.

SIERRA
Here, could you hold this?

Tyler reluctantly takes her hot dog.

TYLER
Was he the one who ran Quorum Records? I knew that name sounded familiar. Glad I was able to help out.

Sierra pulls out a folder and hands it to Tyler. She takes back her hot dog.

SIERRA
Yeah, you helped out alright. So nice of you to have given me their names.

TYLER
I know, I know. You did all the work. It won’t go unappreciated, I promise. How about a couple of tickets to see Justin Bieber? You have the Bieber Fever I bet.

SIERRA
Geez, Tyler, how old do you think I am? I could be that boy’s older sister.

Tyler grins.

TYLER
Sorry, well, just let me know if there’s something you want to attend and I’ll make it happen.
SIERRA
Wow, thanks. I’ll get back to you on that one.

Tyler chugs the rest of his water and throws his garbage away.

He motions with his head for Sierra to walk with him and she throws her half eaten hot dog away.

TYLER
Okay, so we have access to one of them, what about the other?

SIERRA
The other one, Patti Dimarco, was a bit harder to track down. She’s been living in a small town outside Cincinnati for the past twenty years. She worked as a weather girl at a small market station before that, when weather girls were still in fashion, but kind of fell on hard times. Divorced three times, four kids, on and off welfare for most of that time. She now works at a laundry mat.

TYLER
Talk about two opposite paths.

SIERRA
Well, we all walk the path we are given. Some just have to cross a few more bridges than others.

TYLER
Very poetic Sierra. Are you doing underground clubs these days?

SIERRA
Give me a break. So, now that we’ve found these two, what are you and Hunter planning on doing?

Tyler stops at a crosswalk and turns to face Sierra.

TYLER
I don’t know what Hunter’s plans are, but I have something in mind that may make everyone happy.
SIERRA
Hmmm, very intriguing. Not even going to ask what that may be, but really, how do you plan on getting these three to reunite?

TYLER
(grins)
Two words. Royalty checks.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - DAY
Hunter paces the floor, cell phone in hand.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREET - DAY
Tyler stands outside his recording studio building.

INTERCUT - HUNTER’S CONDO/NEW YORK STREET

HUNTER
Wow, I can’t believe you found them so fast. You’re a saint. When I see you again, I’m going to give you a big fat wet one.

TYLER
And I’ll give you a big fat lip.

HUNTER
Come on, just a little peck on the cheek then.

TYLER
I’ll let you kiss a cheek alright.

HUNTER
So, Sierra will be getting in contact with the two ASAP? We need to give them some incentive to want to do this for Daisy.

TYLER
Hear me out before you get all crazy on my ass. I found out that the record label that produced their album folded but they never gave up the copyright to the group or manager. They have quite a bit of money coming to them for the past 50 odd years.

(MORE)
I secured the rights to the group’s name and their catalog, as small as it may be.

Are you kidding me? That’s great news. Now you’re going to get tongue as well.

It’s been way too long for you hasn’t it buddy? You might want to take advantage of that hot Latino babe you’ve got there. Just saying.

You can be so crude sometimes you know. I’m going to take it one day at a time. Yes, you heard right.

No need to explain it to me, I’m all for you settling down.

Okay, slow down. I’ll settle down when I’m good and ready. So back to the HEARTBEATS, you think flashing a nice check in their faces will get them to come. I’m counting on this.

Well, Sierra will be doing the convincing. I just want the credit.

Of course she will. She’s amazing. If anyone’s getting the credit, it’s her, sorry. You’ll get yours someday.

Daisy, who has been out on the balcony within Hunter’s view, enters the condo.

She walks at a much better pace and less of a limp.

Gotta go Ty. Daisy’s coming in. Now to let her know what’s going down.
TYLER
Good luck with that. Definitely let her know about the money as well. Talk later.

HUNTER
You bet.

Hunter puts his phone away as Daisy heads for the kitchen.

DAISY
What a glorious fall morning huh? The air is so much nicer up here in the clouds I believe. Can I make you a sandwich?

HUNTER
Why don’t you come in here for a sec, I have something I need to discuss with you.

DAISY
Oh my, discuss something. I knew this day would come.

She comes back to the living room and sits. Hunter sits next to her.

HUNTER
Not quite sure what you mean by that but what I do want to tell you is a pretty big deal.

DAISY
I just meant that with my health pretty much back to what it was, you’d be wanting this place all to yourself again.

HUNTER
No, no. That’s not it at all. I’ve told you before, you are welcome to stay here as long as you like.

Hunter grabs her hands.

HUNTER
I’ve grown to love you sweet lady. I want to make your life as great as possible. I think I’m a changed man because of you.
DAISY
You’re a changed man alright. I’m so proud of how you’ve taken more control of your company, how you’ve slowed down on your philandering ways, how you’ve actually let someone into your heart. And I don’t mean only me.

Hunter grins.

HUNTER
I do like her. A lot. I have to admit she’s taken me by surprise. We got off to a rocky start, but I think it was because I was jealous of her taking all your attention away from me. She got under my skin and now she’s all I can think about.

DAISY
Well well. I never thought I’d live to see the day. Hunter Foxx is falling in love. You better tell her that, you know she’s not going to be coming around much longer.

HUNTER
I know. I’m definitely going to at least find out what her feelings are about us. I’m not quite sure. Has she said anything to you?

DAISY
Let me just say, she speaks about you without even knowing she’s doing it. Hunter this, Hunter that. I think she’s in the same place as you are, don’t you worry.

HUNTER
Now that we’ve got that out of the way. Let me get to the reason I needed to chat with you.

DAISY
Okay, let me have it.

HUNTER
After you filled me in on your past with your singing career and all you’ve been through, I wanted to do something special for you.
DAISY
Okay, you’ve got my attention.

HUNTER
I’ve found the other two HEARTBEATS and I’m planning on bringing them here for you all to reunite.

She leaps from the couch.

DAISY
Why would you do such a thing? Did you hear how much that part of my past affected me? Patti ruined my life.

HUNTER
Daisy, please. Let me explain. You’re life wasn’t ruined. All it did was lead us to each other. I know, I know, it was an incredibly tough time for you all those years trying to get yourself back on your feet but I truly feel that your meeting up with these two, who were a very important part of your life, would put an end to any bad karma you may still have. You did say you were friends since grade school didn’t you?

Daisy is now over at the window. She glances down at her spot near the park.

DAISY
We were inseparable. Patti and I butted heads all the time, but good ole Cindy was the glue that kept us all together. It was her idea to form a group after getting us into a talent show.

Daisy smiles.

HUNTER
So why not get together one more time and share the good times you all had. I know it will be tough for you but I think it will also be good for you.

Daisy heads to her bedroom, then turns to Hunter.
DAISY
I need to get out of here for a while, clear my head of all this nonsense. I know that you did this with the best intent Hunter. I just don’t think it is something I am ready for.

Hunter stands.

HUNTER
I’ll come with you. You shouldn’t be walking on your own.

DAISY
I can do it, even Ginger said I was ready. Speaking of Ginger, why don’t you two go out and have a nice dinner tonight. I know she’d love that.

She enters her bedroom and shuts the door.

Hunter hangs his head in frustration, then looks over at the phone.

EXT. SAM’S BODEGA - DAY

Sam sells flowers to a customer and sees Daisy approach him and smiles.

SAM
What you doing out alone? Where is Ginger? Are you okay? Do you need to sit down?

DAISY
Sam, Sam, calm down. I’m fine. I can get around on my own now. Almost back to my old self. But your concern is a blessing. Just needed to get out for a bit on my own.

SAM
What you mean? Is everything alright with you and Mr. Foxx?

Sam gets a folding chair and motions for Daisy to take a seat. She settles into it.
DAISY
You won’t believe what he surprised me with. He wants me to get together with my old friends to catch up. Wants me to let go of any animosity I may still have. Clean the slate as they say.

SAM
Why that so bad? From the little you told me about that part of your life, it sound like you were very happy. He must feel that to see them again will bring back some of those happy times. Besides, they will see how you live now and be very jealous.

DAISY
Patti had my husband’s child. How can I let that go. She was my best friend. She doesn’t deserve to see what’s become of me.

SAM
Sometimes the nicest gifts come without any ribbon.

DAISY
(laughs)
Is that from one of your fortune cookies? You need to lay off the egg rolls Sam.

SAM
No, no. I just mean that what Mr. Foxx want for you has no strings attached. He do it from the heart. Maybe you could be all the better for it. You must live for today, not the past. Live for your future. Live for me.

Daisy gets up from her chair and gives Sam a kiss on the cheek.

DAISY
You’re a good man Sam. I am very lucky to have you in my life. Any chance you could walk me home? I need to have a chat with that young man before I change my mind.

Sam runs inside the store and comes back out.
SAM
Let’s get you home.

He offers his arm and she hangs on tight.

INT. HUNTERS CONDO - NIGHT

INSERT - RECORD BEING PLAYED

Daisy’s hand places the needle of a retro hi-fi stereo onto a revolving record.

BACK TO SCENE

She steps away from the stereo as the music begins to play and she picks up the album jacket and sits down. She looks down at the album, smiles and closes her eyes as she begins to lip sync along to the song being played.

Moments pass, then she rises from the chair and begins to move along to the music.

The condo door opens and Hunter and Ginger enter and stop as Daisy, startled, heads to the stereo and takes the needle off the record.

DAISY
I’m ready. Let’s do this.

Ginger claps and shrieks. Hunter smiles.

MONTAGE - INT. BEAUTY SALON AND BOUTIQUE - DAY

- Daisy gets her hair washed at a sink.
- Daisy, with foil in her hair flips through fashion magazines with Ginger. She makes negative faces to most of the pictures until she stops at one page and points at a particular dress. Ginger smiles.
- Daisy has her make-up done as Ginger motions how Connie should look. The make-up artist shakes his head in frustration.
- Daisy, with a new hair style and color, comes out of a dressing room with the dress she had pointed out and twirls.
- Hunter shows up as she prims in a mirror then turns to face him. His jaw drops.
INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Daisy, Hunter and Ginger are seated in a large booth in the middle of a busy restaurant.

Daisy takes very large sips of her drink.

GINGER
You better slow down. You don’t want to get sloshed before they get here.

HUNTER
Yes, please, have some water. I want you to have a clear head.

Daisy obliges.

DAISY
Oh, I have a clear head alright. Clear as a bell. My memory has always been a strong point of mine and I have quite a few things to address tonight.

HUNTER
Now, now Daisy. I want this evening to be about the good times you all shared. Let the bad stuff go. I hope these past few months have given you a new perspective. Now let me give you a little more insight into what’s happened to the both of them.

Hunter looks over Daisy’s shoulder every time the door opens.

GINGER
Are you sure you want to do that? I mean, shouldn’t that be something they all discuss and share?

DAISY
No, it’s better I know what to expect. I’m sure they have both done well for themselves. Patti is probably living in some McMansion. She always said that was in her plans. She never really wanted to sing all her life.

(MORE)
DAISY (CONT'D)
Now Cindy, I can imagine, probably has three or four kids, she always wanted lots of kids that one.

HUNTER
Well, you’re not going to believe this, but it’s actually turned out the other way around. Patti’s the one who has struggled most of her life and she’s the one with four children. Married three times. Cindy did marry that record producer you knew about and is a widow now. She’s had no children.

DAISY
Oh my lord. Now, I’m sorry I asked. I can’t say I feel for Patti’s bad fortune though.

GINGER
You can’t bring any of this up Miss Daisy. Let them be the ones who tell you. If they want to tell you.

DAISY
Cindy, on the other hand, that’s very surprising. I never saw her leading some glamorous life. Did she end up in L.A.?

HUNTER
Yes. It was difficult trying to get her to commit. She’d only fly first class or nothing.

DAISY
Oh brother.

HUNTER
Patti was actually very sweet and couldn’t believe you all were going to be together again. She said she misses you both terribly.

DAISY
Something I would have never expected. I will let them do what they feel is necessary when it comes to sharing their pasts. I certainly don’t feel comfortable sharing all my past.
HUNTER
Yes, just let the conversation flow naturally.

Hunter stands up when he sees Tyler and Sierra enter.

Patti, in what looks like a coat bought at a flea market, is followed by Cindy, who has a mink stole on and jewels that show her wealth.

DAISY
Are they here?

HUNTER
They sure are. Don’t worry, you look amazing.

Hunter waves the group over.

TYLER
(whispers to Hunter as he shakes hands)
These two are a handful. Wouldn’t shut up the entire ride here.

HUNTER
Welcome Patti, welcome Cindy.

Daisy rises up, stern look on her face.

Patti runs over to her and gives her a tight hug.

Cindy stands in front of Tyler and waits for him to take her stole. She gives Daisy a nod hello.

TYLER
Uh, let me take this for you and check it. Patti, would you like me to check yours as well?

PATTI
Oh yeah, great. Wow, this is sure a fancy place. Coat check and everything.

Patti hugs Daisy again, discomfort still on her face.

PATTI
Look at you. I can’t believe how great you look Connie. I’ve thought about you so often and what’s happened to you. This has been a long time coming.
DAISY
You look good as well. Still have the same figure. What a blessing.

They both sit down, followed by the others.

DAISY
My oh my Miss Cindy Bradburn. What has become of the little redhead that was always climbing trees and playing kickball with the boys? A blonde now, it suits you. You’re looking incredible. Who’s your surgeon?

CINDY
(pretentious)
It’s Ammerman now. Has been for some time. And I have no secrets, yes, I’ve had a little work done. It’s all the norm out in Hollywood. You’ve held up well after all these years Connie. Love the hair color you’ve chosen as well.

Tyler returns and sits.

TYLER
Isn’t this something. The HEARTBEATS all together again.

HUNTER
Uh ladies, I’d like to introduce you to Ginger Alverez, she’s been helping with Daisy’s rehabilitation and doing a very good job at it I must say.

Ginger blushes at Hunter’s wink.

GINGER
Lovely to meet the both of you. This is pretty awesome I have to say.

Moments of awkward silence follow as each of the group look through their menus, nosh on bread, take sips of water.

Daisy closes her menu with force and lays it on the table.

DAISY
So, Patti. Why’d you do it?

Everyone at the table freezes.
HUNTER
(whispers)
Daisy, please. Not the time or place.

CINDY
Daisy? Why is this young man calling you Daisy, Connie?

DAISY
(to Cindy)
We’ll get to that later.
(to Patti)
Tell me Patti, why would someone steal someone else’s husband and then go and have his baby? Oh, I’m sorry, I’m sure he made the first move.

Daisy stares down Patti as she begins to tear up.

PATTI
Connie, I can not apologize enough for what I did to you. It was not right and I have lived with the guilt of that mistake all my life. Dominic was telling me he wanted to make me a solo star, that I had what it took to go...

CINDY
...Funny, that’s what he told me as well. I just didn’t give in to his roaming hands.

DAISY
You too? If that man were still alive, he’d be dead.

The table becomes silent again, then everyone but Daisy bursts out in laughter.

DAISY
What’s so fun...Oh, I get it. I guess I can forget about that now.

PATTI
Connie, please forgive me. I need your forgiveness. And I must tell you something that you never let me all these years.

Hunter, Ginger, Tyler and Sierra all lean in closer.
DAISY
What could you possibly tell me after all this time? That you stole my grade school boyfriend as well?

PATTI
Connie, please. I want you to know that Dominic was not the father of my first child. I just told him that so he would leave you and take care of me. I didn’t want the real father to know.

CINDY
And just who was this mysterious father?

Patti wipes away tears.

PATTI
It was one of the roadies. Oh Connie, I am so, so sorry. I should have never done that to you.

CINDY
I bet I know which one. The gorgeous tall blonde that would always get us our coffee. What was his name again?

PATTI
Wylie. Wylie Potts. I just couldn’t have gone through life as...
(drops her head)
...Patti Potts.

Daisy, who has taken it all in very seriously, begins to laugh, followed by Cindy.

DAISY
You’ve got to be kidding. Being Patti Potts is the reason my life unraveled? Okay, we need some drinks here.

Hunter waves the waiter over.

PATTI
You will forgive me won’t you?

Patti gets up from the table and heads towards Daisy. They hug and cry.

Sierra and Ginger dab away tears as well.
GINGER
I knew this was going to be a good thing. Now Miss Daisy can let all that negativity go and move on.

CINDY
There’s that name again. Why are they calling you Daisy?

The waiter shows up at Cindy’s side.

CINDY
I’ll take a Bombay martini, extra dry with 3 olives please.

Daisy and Patti finally let go and compose themselves. Patti heads back to her seat.

DAISY
I sell flowers and daisy’s are my favorite item. My boyfriend started calling me that and it just stuck.

Daisy winks at a wide eyed Hunter.

HUNTER
She always started my day off with a smile and her flowers always made my mother smile.

CINDY
So you own a floral shop Connie? Or should I call you Daisy as well?

DAISY
Well, I don’t exactly own a...

HUNTER
...Not yet. She doesn’t own her own shop yet. We’re working on that.

Hunter winks back at a confused Daisy.

PATTI
That sounds like something you’d be great at. You always loved your flowers.

TYLER
I hate to interrupt this wonderful moment, but I’m just going to throw this out there. How would you three like to do a reunion concert?

(MORE)
TYLER (CONT'D)
You know, do a few numbers off your
album and maybe do a few covers of
hits from your era?

Daisy, Patti, and Cindy all freeze, eyes widen.

Sierra punches Tyler’s arm.

SIERRA
That’s what you’ve had up your
sleeve all this time isn’t it?
Making money off of this beautiful
ladies. You’re too much you know.

HUNTER
(angry)
Tyler. We said we would hold off on
this proposal until later.

TYLER
I just got caught up in the moment.
I saw all the love going around and
I wanted to take advantage of it.
You all need to chill.

Another moment where no one speaks and everyone at the table
exchange glances.

DAISY
(excited)
Let’s do it. Let’s do this girls.
Why not share what was, up to a
certain point, a great thing.

GINGER
Oh please, please? I’ve been
helping this woman get herself back
on her feet and she deserves
nothing more than to have something
good happen to her. I love you Miss
Daisy.

Ginger reaches out her hand and Daisy grabs it tight.

DAISY
And I love you too honey.

PATTI
I’m in. I could use a little
something good in my life too. I’ve
been doing other people’s laundry
for years now. I would love to do
it.
Everyone looks at Cindy, who sips on her martini. She pauses mid sip at everyone’s glare and puts her drink down.

**CINDY**
Me? Sing again? I haven’t sung in years. I, for one, don’t need something good to happen. I’ve led a wonderful life. Why would I do it?

**DAISY**
Because you owe us, that’s why.

Cindy picks up her drink and finishes it in one gulp and points to her empty glass for the waiter to see. He rushes to the bar.

**CINDY**
Owe you? You’re talking nonsense Connie. What could I possibly owe the both of you?

**DAISY**
Well Cindy, it does look like your life has been...wonderful. You were the one who Patti and I accepted into the group way back when. You were living an awful life with your alcoholic mother and dead-beat dad. You weren’t the greatest singer Cindy, but you did have the curves to get the boys to notice. You would never have met your husband if it wasn’t for the two of us.

**PATTI**
Yeah Cindy. You owe us this. It’s not like we’re asking you to go back on tour.
(to Tyler)
You’re not asking us to tour are you?

The waiter brings Cindy her fresh drink and she takes it and raises it.

**CINDY**
I may not have the voice, but I definitely can take care of the gowns. Count me in.
EXT. RESTAURANT - LATER

As the group exits the restaurant, Hunter and Tyler hand the valet their tickets.

Daisy, Patti and Cindy, inebriated and arm in arm, are giggling like schoolgirls.

DAISY
We can’t just let this party end.
Why don’t you two come over to Hunter’s place for a nightcap.
(to Hunter)
That’s okay isn’t it?

HUNTER
I think that would be a great idea.
I’ll have to get you a cab though.
Tyler and I can’t take all of us.

Ginger begins to play with Hunter in a seductive manner.

GINGER
I can sit on your lap pappi.

HUNTER
(whispers)
Not in front of the ladies Ginger.

CINDY
What’s a little harmless flirting going to do? I like you Ginger, you remind me of the three of us when we were younger.

DAISY
Maybe Patti.

The three bust out laughing.

HUNTER
I’ll hail you a cab, go ahead and get things going. Ladies, you’re going to love the place. Just don’t trash it please.

Hunter, also intoxicated, laughs at his joke.

SIERRA
Hunter, you sure your okay to drive? Maybe we should all take cabs. I can make plans to get the cars tomorrow.
TYLER
Great idea. You take care of us don’t you honey. What would we do without you.

Tyler squeezes Sierra’s cheek.

SIERRA
You’d probably both be dead.

Hunter steps out into the street to hail a cab.

TYLER
Wow Sierra, that’s pretty mor...

The sound of screeching tires followed by a loud thump.

BLACK SCREEN

INT. TYLER’S RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

Tyler sits behind his control board. He glances over a newspaper.

Daisy, Patti and Cindy are seen behind the glass partition as they warm up their voices.

Sierra enters, coffee in hand.

Tyler closes the paper.

INSERT - NEWSPAPER HEADLINE
“What will become of Foxx Publishing?”

BACK TO SCENE

TYLER
Great timing, they are just about to lay down their first track and I think I’m going to need lots of that. Keep it coming.

SIERRA
I don’t work for you ya know. I’m here for them.

TYLER
Sorry, I didn’t mean to be so bossy.

(MORE)
TYLER (CONT'D)
Just figured with Hunter gone, you'd need someone to keep you on your toes.

Tyler pushes a button and leans into a microphone.

TYLER
How are those pipes feeling girls? Ready to give this a try?

They all give a thumbs up.

TYLER
Great, I’ll start the background track and you just start where the...

The door to the control room opens and Ginger stands at the doorway.

GINGER
Oh no, did I interrupt? Is this a bad time? I thought there was suppose to a red light on or something.

Ginger enters the room a few steps and turns back to the door.

GINGER
Well, are you coming in or going to just prop the door open like a door stop?

After a few seconds, with Ginger’s help, Hunter hobbles into the room on a cane with a full leg cast and his arm in a sling. Scrapes cover his face.

Tyler jumps up and helps Hunter sit in an empty seat next to his.

TYLER
Hey buddy, you didn’t need to make it here today. We’re just trying out a few tracks to see if they still have it.

HUNTER
Wouldn’t miss this for anything.

GINGER
He was so mean to me when I insisted he not try to come.
Hunter pokes Ginger with his cane.

HUNTER
I’ll show you mean later.

GINGER
Oh papi, you know I have to play with you in some way. Until you’re all better that is.

Sierra takes the coffee she had gotten Tyler and hands it to Hunter.

SIERRA
You two behave. We have to get started before Tyler goes into bankruptcy. Every minute counts here.

TYLER
Why Sierra, you do care. I kind of like that, thanks. Any chance you’d leave this louse and come work for me?

SIERRA
What? And let this louse fall back into his old ways?

Sierra hugs Hunter.

GINGER
I think his old ways are done.

Ginger leans down and gives Hunter a kiss on his cheek.

TYLER
Yeah buddy, you and I are going to get our act together and take it on the road.

GINGER
You do know those ladies in there are not going to be able to tour like one of your bands don’t you? They are going to take it easy if you make them go on this road you talk about.

HUNTER
Honey, you know we’ll take very good care of them.
Daisy opens the door to the control room and pops her head in. Patti and Cindy’s heads follow.

DAISY
Good care of who? Us? We don’t need baby sitters at our age.

They all enter the room.

TYLER
Who’s going to change your diapers?

Sierra pops Tyler on the head with the newspaper.

CINDY
You’ll be in diapers before any of us.

DAISY
(to Hunter)
Well, well, well. You’ve finally gotten yourself out from the safety of your home.
(to Ginger)
Hope he wasn’t too much of a blister.

GINGER
No, no. He has been an angel. He wanted to be here so badly for you today, he promised he’d work extra hard when we got home.

DAISY
That’s so sweet of you Hunter, but you are interrupting us so you be a good boy and let us get back to work.

HUNTER
Yes, ma’am.

PATTI
(to Tyler)
Now make us sound like we were twenty again.

Cindy heads to the door.

CINDY
Connie, Patti, follow me girls.

Cindy and Patti leave the room.
DAISY
She still won’t give in and call me
Daisy, that one. She’s also
complaining about the headphones
messing up her hair too. This could
be a long night Tyler. Just a
warning.

TYLER
As long as it takes Daisy. As long
as it takes.

Daisy joins the other two at their positions.

HUNTER
Never saw this happening a year
ago, right Ty?

SIERRA
After all this time, she still
wants the best for you. You’re two
paths were surely meant to cross. I
think someone very special to you
made this happen.

Hunter grabs Sierra’s hand and pats it.

GINGER
And mine, don’t forget about my
dusty path out of Mexico.

HUNTER
Your’s too. Definitely yours.
Alrighty, let’s get this party
started. I can’t wait to hear how
they sound.

Tyler, once again, leans into his microphone.

TYLER
We’re ready here, let’s go.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT
An older audience fills a low lit cabaret room with loud
chatter.

At the nearest table to the stage sit Hunter, Ginger, Sierra,
and Tyler.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)
The Fantasia Room is proud to
present...
The room becomes silent and everyone turns to the stage.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)
...the first reunion of the one and only HEARTBEATS.

INT. LOUNGE STAGE - SAME

Daisy, Patti and Cindy, in tasteful, glamorous dresses, all face the closed curtain. They grab each others hands and give each other reassuring glances as the curtain is opened.

Hunter rises to his feet as the women head to the microphones at the front of the stage.

Sam, at his own table with the seat next to him filled with another one of his larger than usual beautiful arrangements, begins to pick out a daisy then puts it back.

INSERT - A SINGLE RED ROSE LANDS AT DAISY’S FEET

BACK TO SCENE

Daisy looks down at the rose and winks at Sam.

Tears fill Hunter’s eyes as he looks up and mouths I LOVE YOU.

THE END