stomping grounds

Episode One: "Iced Vanilla Latte"

written by

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Beautiful spring day as JACK (32, handsome, with a wedding ring) sits at an open window seat chewing on a sandwich.

His phone buzzes.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - WINDOW SEAT - DAY

Jack wipes his dirty fingers on a napkin and accepts the call. His Bluetooth earpiece beeps.

JACK

You're always calling me when I'm stuffing my face.

LAURA (O/S)

(on the Bluetooth)

Not my fault, and don't be gross. Your one pm appointment called and asked if you can push it back to two. I told them that it would probably be a no, but that I'd ask you anyway.

Jack checks his watch, which shows 12:30.

As Jack looks back up, TREY (20s, swimmers build) walks by blaring music on his headphones.

They make eye contact. Trey turns his head with a sly grin and finally breaks eye contact.

Jack wipes his mouth. Takes a sip of his coffee.

JACK

I'm sure I can find something to do. Yeah, I'll meet the lovely couple at two pm.

Jack ends the call. Slides his ear piece into his pocket.

EXT. NEXT DOOR TO COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Trey, still smiling, checks his wallet. He's got about ten bucks in ones. He turns around.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - WINDOW SEAT - DAY

Jack smiles as he watches Trey walk through the door, but he avoids eye contact. He knows this game.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - COUNTER - DAY

Trey walks to the counter where we first meet our BARISTA. He's tall and gay and his nails are painted red. His name tag reads GORGE, but that's not his name.

BARISTA

Hey! I haven't seen you since that Pride party with the sling in the kitchen! How you've been?

Trey chokes on his own spit.

TREY

I've been okay. Working a lot.

BARISTA

Same! I'm here and I'm at the wine bar down the street. You should stop by! We've got a great selection. What can I get for you?

TREY

An iced vanilla latte. Please and thank you.

BARISTA

One Iced vanilla latte. So brave. For here or to go?

Trey laughs and turns his head, catching Jack looking in his direction. Jack coughs into his napkin.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - WINDOW SEAT - DAY

Jack, plate clean, sips his coffee. He checks his watch. Shows 12:40.

Trey comes into frame, with his coffee in a mug.

TREY

Is this seat taken?

JACK

Nope.

TREY

Thanks.

Trey swings his legs over the stool.

TREY (cont'd)

I'm Trey.

JACK

Jack. Nice to meet you. Wanna get that coffee to go?

TREY

And go where?

JACK

I have about an hour to kill and it doesn't look like you have anything going on.

Trey bites his lip.

TREY

You got me there.

JACK

So let's go make the best of it.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Jack opens the doors of his luxury SUV as Trey comes out of the shop with his coffee in a paper cup.

TREY

Nice ride.

JACK

Thanks.

TREY

So where are we going?

INT. SUV - DAY

Jack gets behind the wheel. Fires up the engine. Trey gets in the passenger seat.

JACK

I know a place a few blocks from here. Great views. You'll love it.

EXT. LUXURY HOME - DAY

Three levels. Glass. Wood. Sporting a spectacular view.

Sign out front reads, "FOR SALE". Jack parks the SUV in the driveway. He and Trey get out.

TREY

This is amazing.

JACK

Yeah, thanks. Yours for about ten million cash.

TREY

Ha.

JACK

You think I'm joking. Come on in. I'll give you a tour.

INT. LUXURY HOME - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - DAY

Panoramic view of San Francisco above the Castro. Spotlessly clean and ready to buy. Hardwood floors. Marble counter tops. Stainless steel appliances.

TREY

This is incredible!

JACK

Yeah. She's pretty.

TREY

And you're, what, trying to sell it?

JACK

Yep. It'll be my best closing of the year, and it'll go fast.

He checks his watch. 1:15.

JACK (cont'd)

We've gotta 'bout thirty minutes to kill before my next appointment.

Jack pushes Trey against the counter and they kiss. Trey melts under Jack's touch.

JACK (cont'd)

Do you wanna get fucked?

Trey nods and turns around, unbuckling his jeans in the process. He pushes them down to his ankles.

JACK (cont'd)

I haven't had sex in a minute so I hope you enjoy this.

INT. LUXURY HOME - ENTRY WAY - DAY

Trey, dressed and face washed, grabs the door handle. Jack's as cleaned up as he was when we first met him. Jack holds the door open.

TREY

Thanks for the tour.

He winks.

JACK

No problem. Now get outta here before anyone sees you.

TREY

Can I get a card?

JACK

You want a round two?

TREY

Maybe.

They kiss. Jack pulls a business card out of his pocket and hands it over.

JACK

Now go.

Jack pushes Trey through the open door.

EXT. LUXURY HOME - DAY

Trey saunters down the sidewalk as a luxury SUV pulls into the driveway behind him.

JACK (O/S)

Hello! Welcome to Castro. I'm Jack. Very nice to meet you both.

FADE OUT

THE END