INT. ERIN NEWTON’S LAW OFFICE - DAY

A large desk with a three leather chairs sitting in front of it and a fourth behind it, sits in the room with bookcases full of law books.

JOHN MIDDLETION, 33, good looking and wearing a nice suit sits in the chair farthest to the right. WILLIAM, 35, just as good looking as John wearing jeans, a shirt and tie, sits in the middle chair with ERIC, 31, same good looks as his brothers, wearing a tee shirt and jeans, sitting in the left chair.

ERIN NEWTON, 30, pretty her hair swept up in a bun, wearing a dark business suit enters the room. She carries a small wooden box and a pile of papers.

ERIN
Thank you for all coming gentlemen. First I want to tell you how sorry I am for your loss. Your father was a special man.

JOHN
Thank you.

ERIC
Yeah, whatever. You called us here for the reading of the will?

William fidgets with his tie.

ERIN
That’s correct.

ERIC
You couldn’t just send us the stuff?

JOHN
Eric.

ERIN
This was what your father requested.

WILLIAM
That’s all well and good. But do you think we can just get on with it. I’m due to meet this hot babe in the Bahamas.
Eric grins widely accompanied with a snicker.

ERIC
All right Billy.

John rolls his eyes. Erin pulls her chair in closer to the desk and clears her throat as she picks up the papers on her desk.

ERIN
(Reading from the papers)
My dear Sons, I know I wasn’t the best father to you boys, especially to you William and Eric.

ERIC
What’s that suppose to mean?

JOHN
Just let her read.

ERIN
The problem was I always gave you what you wanted. And I did it gladly. But that wasn’t what was best for you. Whenever I asked if you wanted something you, William and Eric took. John never did. He made a name for himself in this world without any help from me.

ERIC
You’ve got to be kidding.

ERIN
But that stops now. Six months from the reading of this will your trust funds will be halted.

WILLIAM
Wait he can’t do that!

ERIN
I’m afraid he can. May I continue?

William slumps into his chair.

ERIN (cont’d)
All of my assets, both houses the three cars, bank accounts, etc. will be liquidated and set up in trust for the MARY MIDDLETON SANCTUARY FOR COMPANION ANIMALS.
WILLIAM
He’s leaving it all to dogs and cats? What about the fifteen hundred acres in Montana?

ERIN
That is where the sanctuary will be set up.

WILLIAM
Did he leave anything for us?

Erin opens the box on her desk then continues to read.

ERIN
For my middle son John I leave to you your grandmother’s engagement ring. Your mother wore it with pride and still wore it even after I had established myself and wanted to buy her a bigger one.

Erin takes a ring box out of the wooden box and hands it to John. He opens the box, looks at the small ring and smiles.

ERIC
(Snickering)
I thought you were his favorite.

ERIN
I know you’ll give it to someone who’ll appreciate it like your mother did.
(BEAT)
For my oldest son William I leave my two cents worth.

Erin takes out two pennies and hands them to William.

WILLIAM
What? That’s it?

ERIN
William you can’t continue to live like a playboy. It can’t be making you happy. You need to get serious and find someone to make you happy.

ERIC
(Laughing)
You’re not happy?

William glares at Eric.
ERIC (cont’d)
What about me? What’d the Old Man leave me? It’s got to be better then what they got. I always had a feeling I was really his favorite and not John.

ERIN
To my youngest I leave this button.

Erin hands him a small plastic button.

ERIC
You’ve got to be kidding me? What am I suppose to do with this?

ERIN
My advice to you Eric is that you have to learn to button your lip. Your off the cuff remarks will get you no where fast. Think before you speak, I know you’re smart you just have to learn to edit yourself.

ERIC
We’ll contest.

ERIN
You could. But you won’t win.
(BEAT)
Thank you gentleman. The law firm will take care of setting up the sanctuary.

WILLIAM
That’s it?

ERIN
Yes. Now if you’ll excuse me I have another appointment in fifteen minutes.

William and Eric stand up and start to leave. Opening the door Eric turns to face Erin.

ERIC
We’re going to contest.

They both exit.

JOHN
(Shaking her hand)
Thank you.
She smiles and closes the box as John exits the room.

INT. A FAST FOOD RESTAURANT - EVENING

John sits in one of the booths two meals of a burger, fries and Coke on the table. John bites into his burger as Erin approaches the table.

   ERIN
   (Putting her phone away)
   Sorry about that. It’s the part of the job I hate.

   JOHN
   Don’t worry about it.

   ERIN
   So why are we eating here? We usually go to ANTONIO’S.

   JOHN
   I know. It’s just well...

He takes out the ring box and places it on the table.

   JOHN (cont’d)
   It was in a place like this that my Dad proposed to my Mom.

   ERIN
   (Gasping)
   John. Are you asking me to marry you?

   JOHN
   Yeah. I know it’s not the most romantic setting...

Erin leans over the table and kisses him.

   ERIN
   It’s the most romantic thing anyone’s ever done for me. Yes, yes I’ll marry you.

John smiles, places the ring on her finger and they kiss again.

   FADE OUT.