

Marilyn

Marilyn Monroe reminisces the story of her childhood to her future friend, Ralph Greenson.

Episode 1: Humble Beginings

Drama

Liam VerSteeg

The following is based on true events. However, some details have been added for dramatic purposes.

2020

Synopsis

Marilyn Monroe reminisces the story of her youth to her new psychiatrist Dr. Ralph Greenson. She tells her tale of her struggling mother and how she moved from a cruel family to an orphanage. Eventually, she'll meet her first husband, who has nothing in common.

MARILYN

Drama

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Episode 1: Humble Beginings

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FADE IN:

1. EXT. TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX STUDIOS-DAY.

SUPER.

February 1st, 1961.

Marilyn Monroe stands outside the studio with lots of reporters and photographers taking pictures and notes of her. Mrs. Monroe's current husband, Arthur Miller stands by her side. She has a stutter problem in her speech.

REPORTER

Mrs. Monroe! What's next?

MARILYN

I guess it'd have to be? A vacation!

Reporters laugh as Marilyn smiles.

ARTHUR

I think she's a bit tired.

Men moan as Arthur begins to guide Marilyn towards the awaiting limo.

MARILYN

I can do more.

ARTHUR

Honey. You okay?

MARILYN

Never better Arthur.

They make it into the limo. It is surrounded by photographers.

ARTHUR

I'm gonna schedule an appointment with a therapist.

MARILYN

I don't need it.

ARTHUR

You do though. Talking to yourself, scared all the time. Something is wrong Marilyn and he can figure it out. I know a guy.

CUT TO:

2. INT. RALPH GREENSON'S OFFICE-DAY.

Marilyn and Arthur sit on a couch together. Opposite is Dr. Ralph Greenson, psychiatrist to the stars. He looks to be in his early forties with a smooth and mildly long mustache. He is drinking tea.

RALPH

Mr. Miller, I'm afraid that you'll have to leave.

MARILYN

He stays!

RALPH

Then I cannot help you Mrs. Monroe. These are confidential meetings that must be held in private.

MARILYN

It is private.

RALPH

Private meaning you and I, alone. I do not wish to harm you or touch you, just figure out the problem.

Ralph stands along with Arthur. Mr. Miller exits knowing that Marilyn is in good hands. The door closes behind him. Ralph returns to his seat, questioning her attitude.

RALPH

What do you hear Mrs. Monroe?

MARILYN

I hear voices telling me to fail. Everyone's out for me. To get what I've earned.

RALPH

I need some information before I can continue. Your story, I am not aware of. Movies aren't my thing. Your name is the only thing I know you by.

MARILYN

What story?

RALPH

Who you were Mrs. Monroe?

There is a long pause as he inches forward.
Who is Norma Jeane Baker?

Marilyn looks up to him, almost crying.

TITLE CREDIT:

3. EXT. LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOSPITAL-DAY.

SUPER.

June 1st, 1926.

Cars drive towards the hospital as the camera moves in on a specific section. It goes through the window to reveal a woman lying on a bed, giving birth.

INT. LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOSPITAL-CONTINUOUS.

She moans in pain as nurses help deliver the baby. Soon, the moaning and pain go away as a baby begins to cry. Little Mrs. Norma Jeane Mortenson.

NURSE

She's healthy mam. Do you want me to get the father?

GLADYS BAKER

Barely breathing.

No! He's not here.

NURSE

But surely he'd want to know?

GLADYS BAKER

I don't know who.

Gladys holds Norma in her arms. The nurse exits.

GLADYS BAKER

I'll call you...Norma Jeane Mortenson. That fits.

CUT TO:

4. INT. RALPH GREENSON'S OFFICE-DAY.

Ralph sits with his journal opened, ready for notes.

RALPH

So it was June 1st, 1926?

MARILYN

It was.

RALPH

And you...had a...happy childhood? Could your mother afford you?

MARILYN

No. She was pore and broke. Worked for a film company cutting negatives.

RALPH
Negatives?

MARILYN
Ah! Movie reels.

RALPH
Tell me about your childhood.

CUT TO:

5. EXT. GLADYS' FIRST HOME-DAY.

Marilyn plays in the front yard, alone. The house is rundown and all old looking. It does not reflect the other nice looking houses on the block. A couple comes walking up to the front door. They say hello to Marilyn.

IDA
Oh look Albert, that must be Jean!
Hi Jeane. I'm Mrs. Bolender. We're
gonna take you home.

Ida and Albert walk to the front door. Gladys comes out.

ALBERT
Gladys! We're here about the girl.

GLADYS BAKER
Her name is Jeane. She's wonderful,
young but fulfilling.

ALBERT
We always wanted a baby girl.

GLADYS BAKER
Take good care of her. I'll try to
visit her whenever possible.

IDA
You're always welcomed.

Ida hugs Gladys as Albert gives her a handshake. Ida and Albert walk away from Gladys. Albert lifts Jeane into the air. She is startled.

IDA
You'll scare her Albert.

ALBERT
Oh she's just a baby. Come on. It's
getting late!

Albert, Ida, and Jeane all go to Albert's car. It drives off as Gladys watches from her porch.

CUT TO:

6. INT. RALPH GREENSON'S OFFICE-DAY.

Ralph finishes writing some notes.

RALPH
How long did you live there?

MARILYN
I can't remember exactly but it
wasn't too long.

RALPH
What happened next?

MARILYN
My mother got a house in Hollywood,
so I moved in with her. Can we
finish another time? I wouldn't
want Arthur to wait.

RALPH
Of course. Mrs. Monroe, it's been a
pleasure. I look forward to our
next meeting.

Ralph stands kissing, Marilyn's hand. He guides her to the door and opens it. Mrs. Monroe exits as Ralph closes the it behind her.

EXT. RALPH'S OFFICE BUILDING-DAY.

Arthur is waiting by the limo. Marilyn makes her way over to him. Arthur opens the door.

ARTHUR
Was it good?

MARILYN
He just asked about my childhood?

Marilyn steps in. Arthur follows.

ARTHUR
He needs a clear picture I'm
betting.

MARILYN
I don't see the use.

ARTHUR
Hey Tim, you can go.

Tim begins to drive away.

INT. LIMO-DAY.

Marilyn rests next to Arthur. She is exhausted.

ARTHUR

Honey, it's the right thing to do.
It'll help figure out some stuff.

MARILYN

It's just so boring. Why can't he
just play a film and that solves
all the problems.

ARTHUR

Laughing.

That would be easier. I'll bring
you back tomorrow. Sounds good and
this time, I'll go and get a drink
while waiting.

The two kiss. Marilyn then leans on Arthur's leg and falls
asleep. Arthur removes Marilyn's hair cover and strokes the
curly locks. Mrs. Monroe is relaxed with her eyes closed. She
smiles.

FADE TO:

7. INT. ALBERT'S HOUSE-NIGHT.

SUPER.

6 years later.

Marilyn is now 7 years old. The door bell rings. Ida and
Albert are in the back room. Moaning can be heard. Marilyn
answers the door. Gladys is standing out front.

YOUNG MARILYN

Mommy!

Marilyn and Gladys hug.

GLADYS BAKER

Hi sweetie. You been a good girl?

Ida and Albert come to the door. Albert is buttoning his
shirt up.

GLADYS BAKER

Has she been good?

ALBERT

Amazing Mrs. Baker. You were right,
she is perfect!

IDA

Don't let her get cold!

ALBERT

Would you come inside Mrs. Baker?

Albert lets Gladys in who is now holding Marilyn in her arms.

INT. ALBERT'S HOUSE-CONTINUOUS.

They make their way into the living room where Marilyn plays with a doll house as Albert gets his drink from the kitchen. He sits next to Ida on the love seat. Gladys sits on a lonely chair behind Marilyn.

ALBERT
How's work been?

GLADYS BAKER
Better than expected.

IDA
That's good to here.

GLADYS BAKER
Has Jeane been to school?

IDA
Norma has been there for a year or two now?

GLADYS BAKER

Questioning.

You call her Norma?

ALBERT
It sounded more, caring than Jean.
Blue isn't our color.

Marilyn climbs into Gladys' arms.

ALBERT
I have been curious to why you came over today? It's usually only the weekend?

GLADYS BAKER

Setting Marilyn down.

I have bought a house and want to take Marilyn home.

ALBERT
Can you support her?

GLADYS BAKER
I will try my best.

IDA
She's been a darling, a miracle brought into our lives and we thank God everyday for her and you.

GLADYS BAKER
Is that a yes then?

ALBERT
She's your daughter.

Gladys picks up Marilyn as Albert and Ida begin to pack her things.

YOUNG MARILYN
Where are we going Momma?

GLADYS BAKER
Home, with me!

Gladys hugs Marilyn as Albert and Ida return with her things.

ALBERT
Where's the car Mrs. Baker?

CUT TO:

8. INT. MARILYN MONROE'S HOUSE LA-NIGHT.

Arthur carries Marilyn into the house. IT is dark out as he tries to tun on the lights. Marilyn begins to wake up. Arthur sets her down on the couch in the living room.

ARTHUR
It's alright. Just stay calm.

MARILYN
Confused.
What happened?

ARTHUR
You fell asleep Marilyn.

MARILYN
What about the guy?

ARTHUR
The psychiatrist is fine dear.
We'll see him again tomorrow.

Marilyn moans as she turns away from Arthur, facing the back of the couch.

ARTHUR
Just relax.

MARILYN
Seriously.
I want a divorce.

Arthur is mortified by Marilyn's comment. He rubs her back.

ARTHUR

Surely you don't mean that?

MARILYN

You're boring Arthur. Too predictable for any fun.

ARTHUR

Shocked.

You married me Marilyn. We loved each other. Doesn't that matter to you anymore?

MARILYN

You said to relax.

Arthur steps back from Marilyn as she begins to fall asleep. He turns off the lights as he exits the scene.

INT. MARILYN MONROE'S HOUSE-NIGHT.

Marilyn stares up into the stares.

MATCH CUT TO:

9. EXT. GLADYS' SECOND HOME-DAY.

Marilyn and Gladys stand at the front walkway towards the house with their bags. The driver in the car behind them goes off screen.

GLADYS BAKER

This is it Jeane!

YOUNG MARILYN

Excited.

Is it ours?

GLADYS BAKER

We'll be sharing it with a few other people.

YOUNG MARILYN

Why can't we have our own?

Gladys kneels to Marilyn's height. She puts her hands on her shoulders.

GLADYS BAKER

Houses are expensive Jeane. They cost a lot of money.

YOUNG MARILYN
I hope they're friendly.

Gladys hugs Marilyn before she grabs the bags and guides Mrs. Monroe inside.

INT. GLADYS' SECOND HOME-CONTINUOUS.

The current residents freeze as Gladys and Marilyn put their bags down. They soon storm them.

GEORGE ATKINSON

Excited.

Mrs. Baker! Lovely to see you!

George and his wife greet Mrs. Baker as Nellie shyly looks at Marilyn.

NELLIE

Scared.

What's your name?

YOUNG MARILYN

Unknowing how to answer.

Norma but you can...call me Jeane!

George and Maude look at Marilyn with cuteness as they grab their bags.

GEORGE ATKINSON

You've lived in LA before?

Maude escorts them to their bedroom. Marilyn and Gladys share a room with two beds and no bathroom.

INT. GLADYS' SECOND BEDROOM-CONTINUOUS.

GEORGE ATKINSON

Here you are Mrs. Baker!

Sets the bags down.

I hope you like it!

George exits as Gladys sits on her bed. Marilyn jumps on her leg.

GLADYS BAKER

Proudly.

You like it Jeane?

YOUNG MARILYN

Hugging Gladys.

I love it Mother!

Marilyn runs out as Gladys takes a huge sigh of relief, relaxing on the bed.

INT. GLADYS' SECOND HOME-DAY.

Marilyn searches through the hall. She holds a doll, looking for Nellie. As Marilyn reaches the end, noises come from behind a creaked door.

GEORGE ATKINSON(OFF SCREEN)
Hold still.

Marilyn inches closer as moaning can be heard. She is speechless as her eyes peep through the crevice.

NELLIE

Looking to Marilyn.
Jeane!

George immediately stops and pushes Marilyn out the door, frustrated over his mistake. Robert, another member comes by.

ROBERT

Continues walking.
I wouldn't peak my head in places.

Young Marilyn hugs her doll.

MATCH CUT TO:

10. INT. MARILYN MONROE'S HOUSE LA-MORNING.

Marilyn holds the same doll. It is now roughed and dirty. She keeps it hidden in a Hubbard from Arthur. Mrs. Monroe hides it as footsteps trickle in the background towards the kitchen.

ARTHUR(OFF SCREEN)
Marilyn!

Mrs. Monroe turns around from the breakfast table.

MARILYN

Breathing heavily.
Arthur! You're awake?

ARTHUR
Why wouldn't I?

Arthur sits as Marilyn ponders an excuse.

MARILYN
Just wondering.

ARTHUR

Takes breath.

What you said last night, I don't believe that was you.

MARILYN

Arthur, just forget about it. We're not made for each other.

ARTHUR

Furiously standing.

Then why'd ya marry me? There must've been something that got your eye. A hoax?

Marilyn covering her face with sadness.

MARILYN

I don't know Arthur. Just...leave me alone. Please?

Crying.

My choices are mine alone.

ARTHUR

Comforting Marilyn.

And I respect that. Just say you love me and I'll never ask again.

Marilyn refuses the request. She gets up and runs into the bedroom. Arthur sits, saddened by her response.

11. INT. MARILYN'S BEDROOM-DAY.

Marilyn weeps as Arthur enters. He sits on the bed besides her. Mrs. Monroe's hair is all messed up, almost laughable.

ARTHUR

Rubbing her bare back.

I love you dear. You're so amazing. Anyone would want to marry you but I got lucky.

Arthur remembers his past as Marilyn combs her hair.

ARTHUR

Why did you marry me?

They both lie in bed, unknowing of the time.

MARILYN

I loved you and I...I...What time is it?

Arthur checks the clock. 10:33. They both spring out and scramble their clothes.

ARTHUR

Exhausted.

We can't be late on your second day!

They run out the house.

EXT. MARILYN MONROE'S HOUSE LA-CONTINUOUS.

Tim is getting anxious as Marilyn and Arthur jump into the back seat, fighting for the seat belts.

ARTHUR

Commanding.

Drive!

TIM

Where to?

MARILYN

Dr. Ralph Greenson!

The couple laugh as the driver speeds down the empty road.

CUT TO:

12. INT. RALPH GREENSON'S OFFICE-DAY.

Marilyn lies on a couch as Dr. Ralph Greenson pulls a chair next to her. He has his notebook and pencil. She is relaxed and anxious.

MARILYN

Come on Ralph! You're too slow!

RALPH

Setting his chair down.

Yesterday, you felt tired but now, you're a beast!

MARILYN

It's gonna be a great day!

RALPH

Writing.

You interest me Mrs. Monroe.

MARILYN

Marilyn! Call me Marilyn! I hate formality.

RALPH

Annoyed and forceful.

Marilyn! Okay! Made a note. So
anyways, I read some news about you
yesterday, trying to get a picture.

Marilyn begins to sit in a sexy position, revealing her tiny
undergarments,

MARILYN

Oh really?

RALPH

Mrs. Monroe, we needa stay formal.

MARILYN

Flirtatious.

Who's says?

RALPH

That article I was talking about,
it was about your mom.

Marilyn moves from her sexy position, a wave of fear comes
for her.

MARILYN

Concerned.

What about her?

RALPH

So I awake you? It said that your
mother was hospitalized?

MARILYN

That's not true. She didn't go to a
hospital.

RALPH

Leaning closer with intrigue.

Then where did she go Mrs. Monroe?

MARILYN

I forgot the name but it was an
asylum of some sort.

13. EXT. METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL-DAY.

Marilyn with Nellie and Maude sit inside a waiting like room.
George enters without Gladys.

GEORGE ATKINSON

Depressed.
She'll be alright.

Marilyn is lost over the sadness of Mr. Atkinson.

YOUNG MARILYN

Unknowing.
Where's mother?

George heavily intakes a breath before he holds Marilyn.

GEORGE ATKINSON

Mortified.
Jeane, she's not coming back.

Marilyn starts to pout as Doctor Nicholas enters. Nicholas is tall with no beard. He wears a lab coat and looks serious.

MAUDE

Concerned.
When can we see her?

DR. NICHOLAS
I wouldn't suggest for the girls.

GEORGE ATKINSON
She needs to see her mother!

DR. NICHOLAS

Beaten.
Come with me.

George kneels to Marilyn.

GEORGE ATKINSON
You're going to go with the doctor
Jean. He'll take you to Mother.

Marilyn becomes excited as Dr. Nicholas walks her out into the hall.

14. INT. METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL HALL-CONTINUOUS.

Marilyn looks around at all the different rooms filled with patients. In the middle of the building, a cafeteria is located with only a few patients eating. Dr. Nicholas stops at the end of the hall and unlocks the door with his key.

YOUNG MARILYN

Running in.

Mommy!

15. INT. GLADYS' ASYLUM ROOM-CONTINUOUS.

The room is vacant except for a bed and a window facing the parking lot. Gladys stands by the window, too small to get out of. She doesn't notice Marilyn.

GLADYS BAKER

To herself and crazy.

I did all I can. She's not here anymore. Help them! Help them!

Marilyn is scared by Gladys' conversation.

YOUNG MARILYN

What's wrong with mommy?

Dr. Nicholas closes the door behind him. He sits on the bed as Marilyn jumps into his lap.

DR. NICHOLAS

What's your name dear?

YOUNG MARILYN

Norma but you can call me Jeane.

DR. NICHOLAS

Well Jeane, she's sick.

YOUNG MARILYN

Hopeful.

She'll get over it! I know it!

DR. NICHOLAS

Staring at the unknowing Gladys.

It's not that kind of sickness. It can't be cured. It's like a bee sting. Have you ever been stung before?

Marilyn thinks about the question.

YOUNG MARILYN

Surprising.

I think so? It was years ago.

DR. NICHOLAS

Well, when a bee stings you, the bee doesn't come back. Your mother was bit by a much bigger bee and she won't be coming home anytime soon.

Marilyn hops off Dr. Nicholas' leg. She hugs her mother who then looks down and hugs Marilyn.

GLADYS BAKER

Crying in joy.
Jeane, You're here!

DR. NICHOLAS

Standing.
Mrs. Baker, you will not be allowed to see her until we give you the green light.

GLADYS BAKER

Angry.
That's not fair! There must be a way!

DR. NICHOLAS
I'm sorry. I'll give you two a moment to say goodbye.

Dr. Nicholas exits as Gladys and Marilyn still hug.

GLADYS BAKER

Whispering.
Help me!

YOUNG MARILYN
How mother?

GLADYS BAKER
I don't know!

Gladys lets go and surveys the room, searching for mics.

GLADYS BAKER
They're watching me Jeane.

YOUNG MARILYN
Please mother, come home.

Dr. Nicholas enters, waiting for Marilyn to walk away from Gladys.

DR. NICHOLAS
Time's up!

Gladys kisses Marilyn on the forehead.

GLADYS BAKER

Whispers.
Save me.

Marilyn says nothing as she backs up from Gladys.

DR. NICHOLAS

Holding his hand out for Marilyn.
She needs help. I can give it to
her. Just trust me.

Marilyn takes Dr. Nicholas' hand and they exit as Gladys
cries with her face on the bed pillow.

CUT TO:

16. INT. RALPH GREENSON'S OFFICE-CONTINUOUS.

Ralph is astounded by Marilyn's story. He is speechless,
dropping his pencil.

RALPH

Speechless.
I don't know what to say? I'm
sorry?

MARILYN

Remorseful.
Don't say a word. It's my life, not
yours.

RALPH

Grabbing his pencil.
For a thirty five year old woman,
you are very wise sometimes.

MARILYN

I thank you for that.

Marilyn stands and hugs Ralph.

RALPH

Standing.
Will you be back tomorrow?

MARILYN

You'll have to wait and see.

RALPH

I can't do that. I got appointments
and you need start scheduling some
before I drop you from my list.

MARILYN

Walking to Marilyn.

You won't drop me.

RALPH

And why's shouldn't I?

MARILYN

You said it yourself, I'm too interesting to leave. Don't you want to hear what's next?

Ralph sits, knowing the truth. He doesn't respond.

MARILYN

Smiling flirtatiously.
Exactly.

Marilyn exits as Ralph beats his pencil on his leg.

RALPH

Who are you?

EXT. RALPH'S OFFICE BUILDING-DAY.

Marilyn waits for the limo and Arthur underneath the entrance covering. Ralph runs out towards Marilyn.

MARILYN

Startled.
Ralph! You alright?

RALPH

Catching his breath.
I need to know!
Did...did...your...mother...ever
come back?

The limo arrives. Marilyn covers her hair and walks towards the back. Ralph follows. Marilyn enters and rolls down the window.

RALPH

Please? It'll help me sleep tonight.

MARILYN

No.

The limo drives off as Marilyn rests on Arthur's shoulder.

RALPH

I'm so sorry Mrs. Monroe.

Ralph is completely vulnerable, annoyed and confused over Mrs. Monroe's dark history. He stands, unknowing of tomorrow's meeting.

CUT TO:

17. EXT. METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL-DAY.

The limo makes its way towards the hospital. Marilyn is confused over the location.

MARILYN

Popping her head out the window.
Where are we going?

DRIVER

Mr. Miller has given a request.

Marilyn turns to Arthur with suspicion.

ARTHUR

I want you to see her. It's the first step!

MARILYN

Anxious.

Is she here?

ARTHUR

We're about to find out, aren't we?

The limo drops Marilyn and Arthur off at the front before it drives away. A crowd swarms Marilyn.

MAN 1

Holding a picture of Marilyn.
Marilyn, will you sign this?

MARILYN

Grabbing the picture and his pencil.
Of course!

She signs it and then does others. Doctors come out to push the fans away from her.

DOCTOR 1

Get back!

DOCTOR 2

Holding pepper spray.
We will deploy.

The crowd disperses as Marilyn straightens her clothes. They enter the hospital. It looks the same.

CUT TO:

18. INT. GLADYS' ASYLUM ROOM-CONTINUOUS.

A doctor lets Marilyn and Arthur enter her mom's room. She sits on the bed with a cigarette lit. The door closes behind them.

MARILYN

Scared.

Hello mother.

GLADYS BAKER

Are you real?

Marilyn steps closer for Gladys to caress her face.

GLADYS BAKER

Tearful.

I've missed your visits.

Turning to Arthur.

Who's this?

ARTHUR

Going in for a hand shake.

Arthur Miller mam.

MARILYN

My husband!

Gladys looks around, confused.

GLADYS BAKER

Your third?

MARILYN

Yes. I'm sorry I couldn't visit earlier. It's just that...filming...uh got busy.

GLADYS BAKER

Tired.

It's always the same excuse from you. At least Grace cares.

MARILYN

What's she got to do with this. Grace takes the daily stuff cause I'm busy trying to make money for you to stay here.

ARTHUR

Holding Marilyn.

I think it's time to go?

Marilyn pushes herself from Arthur.

MARILYN

Upset and tired of talking to Gladys.
I've turned out better than you
ever thought. I want you to get the
help you need.

Crying with sadness.
Mom, I love you.

Marilyn hugs Gladys but doesn't get the love back.

GLADYS BAKER
Don't come back Jeane.

MARILYN

Stepping away.
You can't mean that? Mom?

GLADYS BAKER
Go and take your golden locks
somewhere else.

Marilyn cries as Arthur walks her out of the room.

19. INT. METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL HALL-CONTINUOUS.

Arthur guides Marilyn through the empty hall. Gossip and
conversations can be heard outside the main door.

MARILYN
I told you it was a bad idea.

ARTHUR
I'm sorry. I thought that it was
time. I was wrong.

Doctors surround Marilyn and Arthur. The entrance doors open.
A massive group of people have gathered to get a glimpse of
Marilyn.

CUT TO:

20. EXT. METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL-CONTINUOUS.

The limo is surrounded by fans. Marilyn is escorted through a
bodyguard of doctors. Arthur follows, keeping it tight. Tim
unlocks the door for the couple who jump in.

ARTHUR
Go!

Tim carefully maneuvers his way around the fans and away from the hospital.

CUT TO:

21. INT. MARILYN'S LIMO-CONTINUOUS.

Marilyn looks at the window as Arthur mirrors on the opposite. He holds Marilyn's left hand.

ARTHUR

We both have our secrets, I'll admit that but there are somethings that I must know.

MARILYN

Peacefully.

Ask away?

ARTHUR

You talked about a girl, named Grace. Who is she?

MARILYN

A family friend.

ARTHUR

There's more to the story than that is there? Marilyn, is there?

MARILYN

Powerfully.

Yes! God yes! There always is! Grace...

ARTHUR

She was a foster, wasn't she?

MARILYN

Returns to the window.

I'm done talking.

ARTHUR

You can't shut me out all the time. I'll figure it out one day, I guarantee it.

MARILYN

Then good luck.

Arthur rolls down his window trying to smell the fresh air.

ARTHUR

Looking to Marilyn.

You remember when we used to do
this?

There's no response. Arthur sticks his head out.

ARTHUR

I do. It was right after the
premiere of the...uh...what was it
again, the sleepless...

MARILYN

Annoyed at the story.

The Prince and the Showgirl.

ARTHUR

But it was...

MARILYN

It got renamed. And yah, I do
remember that day and how awful it
was.

Marilyn and Arthur hold hands, ready to make out.

ARTHUR

Did you like that movie?

MARILYN

Laughing her response.

Not one bit! It was so bloody
terrible, oh my God.

ARTHUR

Spontaneously.

Do you want some ice cream or
custard?

To the driver.

Hey Tim, can you take us to an ice
cream shop?

TIM

Uh, it's gonna be a bit. We far
from downtown.

ARTHUR

Kissing Marilyn intensely.

We got time.

Marilyn rolls up the privacy divider between Tim the driver
and the couple. They make out. Tim can hear moaning.

TIM
 You alright back there? It's a
 little loud if you don't mind.

Arthur opens the divide.

ARTHUR
 Let me deal with that.

TIM
 Of course. We about ten minutes
 out.

Marilyn's top is off but nudity is unseen.

ARTHUR
 Closing the divide.
 Thanks for the notice.

Tim smiles.

MATCH CUT TO:

22. EXT. GLADYS' SECOND HOME-DAY.

Marilyn and the Atkinsons are driving home. Marilyn sits in the back seat of the black car with Nellie. When they arrive, George carries Nellie inside, leaving Marilyn by herself with Maude.

MAUDE
 You wait here.

Maude runs in as Marilyn searches the outside of the house. She discovers a back bedroom window.

GEORGE ATKINSON
 To Maude.
 Do you think it's time?

MAUDE
 Her mother ain't coming back.

George nods as he exits. Marilyn runs to the front again.

GEORGE ATKINSON
 Jeane! Oh Jeane! Where are you?

YOUNG MARILYN
 Popping out of the back bushes.
 Here I am!

George picks up Marilyn and guides her inside.

CUT TO:

23. INT. GLADYS' SECOND HOME BACK BEDROOM-CONTINUOUS.

George sets Marilyn on the bed as he begins to removes his belt.

YOUNG MARILYN
What's happening Mr. Atkinson?

GEORGE ATKINSON
You will not speak of this to anyone, ever!

George begins to embrace young Marilyn. She is confused and mortified over his strange behavior. Nellie and Maude are in the kitchen, waiting.

YOUNG MARILYN

Crying.

Stop! Please Mr. Atkinson. Please!

George stops, breathing heavily and tired. He puts his belt back on and holds Marilyn very tightly.

GEORGE ATKINSON
Don't say a word Jeane. Or else!

Marilyn runs out away from George who is absolutely exhausted.

CUT TO:

24. EXT. ICE CREAM SHOP-DAY.

Marilyn, Tim, and Arthur sit at a table, eating ice cream. Mrs. Monroe has a sundae while Arthur and Tim both hold ice cream cones.

ARTHUR
Why a sundae?

MARILYN

Licking her spoon.

It's not as messy. Every time I eat ice cream, it gets all over.

Tim finishes his cone.

TIM

Standing.

Are you done Mrs. Monroe?

MARILYN

Pushing her sundae to Tim.
You've known me for a long time
Tim. And you know what I ask?

TIM

Grabbing Marilyn's trash.
Yes mam I do. Marilyn, are you
done?

MARILYN

It appears so Tim.

Tim throws the trash away as Arthur finishes his cone.

ARTHUR

Still eating.
What's your favorite ice cream
Marilyn?

MARILYN

I don't know? Flavor or type, like
a cone or shake?

ARTHUR

Wiping his hands on his shirt.
That's true. Um? Flavor?

MARILYN

Rhetorically.
Great job at staying clean. It's
all over your shirt now.

ARTHUR

It makes it more fun. You never
answered me though?

MARILYN

What was the question again?

Ice cream workers come running with pictures.

ARTHUR

What kind of...

ICE CREAM MEMBER 1

Handing Marilyn a pen and tiny head shot.
Will you sign?

MARILYN

For my fans, of course!

Marilyn signs the five members things.

MARILYN

Surveying the fans.
Is that it?

ICE CREAM MEMBER 2
Thanks Mrs. Monroe!

The members exit as Marilyn starts to cry.

ARTHUR
What's wrong dear?

Tim gets into the limo, ready to drive.

ARTHUR

Hugging Marilyn.
You're perfect!

MARILYN
That's all anyone wants. A
signature, a picture, what next, a
phone?

ARTHUR
You're just scared. Everything will
be just fine.

Arthur guides her into the car.

25. INT. MARILYN'S LIMO—CONTINUOUS.

ARTHUR
Your insecurities are getting worse
every day. A break is in order.
That vacation, looks like a good
idea.

The limo drives.

MARILYN

Holding Arthur's hands.
We can't miss Dr. Greenson. He
expects us.

ARTHUR
I think he'll be alright if we miss
a few days. You need it.

MARILYN
It's not gonna do any good. I'll
always feel like this, for the rest
of my life and...

ARTHUR

Just stop! No more about this.

Marilyn is angered by Arthur's rude comment. She relaxes as Arthur lets go.

ARTHUR

To Tim.

Take us home.

TIM

You got it boss.

CUT TO:

26. EXT. MARILYN MONROE'S HOUSE LA-NIGHT.

Marilyn and Arthur exit the limo. They are both exhausted from the day's activities.

ARTHUR

I can feel a vacation coming?

MARILYN

We can't leave Dr. Ralph!

ARTHUR

Unlocking the front door.

He'll be fine and besides, there are other clients too.

MARILYN

Falling on Arthur's shoulders.

I need...

ARTHUR

Catching Marilyn.

Just sit down. Take it slow.

MARILYN

Rubbing her head.

The voices, they're back! They always come home.

ARTHUR

Realizing.

No vacation.

Marilyn closes her eyes, crying in pain as Arthur shuts the front door.

CUT TO:

27. INT. GLADYS' SECOND HOME-DAY.

SUPER.

Two years later.

George enters Marilyn's room. She is sleeping calmly.

GEORGE ATKINSON

Rowdy.

Get up!

Marilyn sprangs awake.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Now stuttering.

Yes Mr. Atkinson?

GEORGE ATKINSON

Was that a...stutter?

TEENAGE MARILYN

No sir.

GEORGE ATKINSON

It was! Ha. Pack your things. We are going away for a while and you will be visiting my friend, Grace.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Mumbling.

I hope she's nicer than you?

GEORGE ATKINSON

Grabbing Marilyn angrily.

What'd you say to me girl? I will do it again, so don't make me.

Marilyn pushes him off her as Maude enters.

MAUDE

You'll like Grace. She's different than us.

TEENAGE MARILYN

When we go?

MAUDE

Right now.

Marilyn scrambles her things together and stuffs them in a sack as George and Maude get the car ready.

CUT TO:

EXT. GLADYS' SECOND HOME-CONTINUOUS.

Marilyn walks with her things towards the car. She looks back at the house and holds the middle finger up to it.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Satisfied.

Here's for nothing.

GEORGE ATKINSON(OFF SCREEN)

Hurry up!

Marilyn enters the car as it drives off down the road, never to see that house again.

CUT TO:

28. EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE-DAY.

The car arrives at the house. It is a beautiful two story house with palm trees lining the road. It's white and Marilyn is ecstatic.

MAUDE

Jeane, this is your new home!

Marilyn rolls down the window for the young woman walking towards the back of the car.

GRACE

You must be Jeane? I'm Grace.

GEORGE ATKINSON

Jeane, say hello to Grace. Grace, Jeane. Now get out!

Marilyn hurries out with her pack. George speeds off.

GRACE

He has an attitude doesn't he?

TEENAGE MARILYN

What do you do?

GRACE

Shocked.

No one's ever asked but I work at a film company, just like your mother did.

Marilyn hugs Grace, relieved that she's away from the Atkinsons.

GRACE
Did they hurt you?

TEENAGE MARILYN

Tearing up.
I don't wanna talk.

GRACE
You don't have to. I understand.

MATCH CUT TO:

29. INT. RALPH GREENSON'S OFFICE-CONTINUOUS.

Marilyn wears a blue dress and sits in the chair opposite of Ralph. Dr. Greenson is more intrigued than ever.

RALPH
So you stayed with her for, how long?

MARILYN

Comforted.
I'm not sure but it wasn't too long.

RALPH
What happened next?

MARILYN

Nervous.
It doesn't get better.

RALPH
Leaning in to Marilyn with contempt.
I've heard a lot of stories Mrs. Monroe and your's is definitely special than most. I'll do whatever I can but I need to know the facts.

MARILYN
I didn't stay long. She put me up.

RALPH
Sitting back.
Put you up? Like, adoption?

MARILYN
Adoption, an orphanage.

INT. LOS ANGELES ORPHANS HOME-CONTINUOUS.

Teenage Marilyn sits on a bench alone, watching the other kids play. A doctor sits next to her.

DOCTOR THOMAS

Jeane? Why you sitting alone?

TEENAGE MARILYN

It helps me think.

DOCTOR THOMAS

About what? I'm not a therapist but I do want to help.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Furious.

She abandoned me! She put me here!

DOCTOR THOMAS

Who? Jeane, what are you saying?

TEENAGE MARILYN

You wouldn't understand! It's not like you were an orphan. At least, not at my age.

DOCTOR THOMAS

I was an orphan but you're right, I don't know how it feels to be ten years older than anyone else but, we can help.

Marilyn stands, annoyed and scared.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Decisive.

I don't want your help doc! Leave me be.

DOCTOR THOMAS

It'll only bring you pain.

There is no reply from Marilyn who has now blocked him out.

DOCTOR THOMAS

Leaving.

I'm sorry Jeane. I tried.

MARILYN(VOICE OVER)

I felt abandoned, alone, out for myself with not a care in the world for little orphan Jeane.

BACK TO:

INT. RALPH GREENSON'S OFFICE-CONTINUOUS.

Ralph stands from his chair and places his notes down.

MARILYN

Watching with caution.

What are you doing?

RALPH

Looking out the window.

Do you like being hot?

CUT TO:

30. EXT. LA FOREST-DAY.

Marilyn and Ralph walk through the dense forest on their way towards a pond that splashes in the distance. Falling water is heard in the background.

MARILYN

When you said hot, I thought you meant, you know, the...sexy type?

RALPH

Rhetorically asking.

If you'd rather be inside, then we can certainly do that.

MARILYN

Quickly.

No! No! I like it. So Ralph, you ask all about my story but I don't question yours?

RALPH

What do ya want to know Mrs. Monroe?

MARILYN

Amused.

You wanted to rhyme huh?

RALPH

Laughing.

Yeah, I did. I love saying Mrs. Monroe. My wife thinks that it's the coolest thing ever. Honestly, I had no idea who you were until you came into my office and caused a huge commotion.

MARILYN

Glad I could help and Ralph, how many times do I have to tell you, call me Marilyn.

RALPH

You'll have to keep telling me cause I'll never remember that.

MARILYN

It's not hard. Oh look, the pond. And the ducks!

Marilyn runs to the pond. Ralph follows in a slow jog.

MARILYN

Sitting next to the ducks.
Do you like ducks Ralph?

RALPH

Catching a breath.
I can't say that I love them but they ain't the worst.

Ralph sits, exhausted by the spontaneous run. The pond area is lush with a lot of trees and bushes and animals to keep the tiny ecosystem alive and well.

MARILYN

So what's your story Ralph?

RALPH

I'm afraid that it's nowhere near as exciting as your is.

MARILYN

A little greedy.
It can't be that bad?

RALPH

Alright. I grew up in a nice family, one who loved me and took care of me and the siblings. That's it!

MARILYN

Underwhelmed.
That's actually really boring but nice though.

RALPH

Chuckling.

Thanks for your concern. Arthur's waiting.

MARILYN

Standing.

You call him Arthur but me Mrs. Monroe?

RALPH

He's not my client. You are.

Ralph and Marilyn run back towards the office, leaving the serenity of the pond behind.

MARILYN

Running.

Will we ever go back?

RALPH

It's up to you Marilyn.

MARILYN

Glad.

Finally!

CUT TO:

31. EXT. RALPH GREENSON'S OFFICE-DAY.

The two come out of the woods only to face Arthur waiting.

ARTHUR

Where were you Marilyn? I was about to get the police.

RALPH

Carefully.

I apologize Mr. Miller. I wanted to take her to a peaceful spot, just to visit.

MARILYN

Hugging Ralph.

I thank you Ralph. Can't wait for tomorrow!

ARTHUR

Come on Marilyn, it's time to go home.

Marilyn enters the car as Arthur approaches Ralph.

ARTHUR

Threateningly.

You will not touch her or make out
or I will kill you on the spot.

RALPH

Not flinching.

I am a therapist. I have no
intention of screwing your wife or
even getting that kind of close.

ARTHUR

Walking away.

That's what I thought.

The limo leaves as Ralph makes his way inside.

CUT TO:

32. INT. LOS ANGELES ORPHANS HOME OFFICE ROOM-DAY.

SUPER.

I year later.

Grace sits across from Doctor Thomas. Marilyn is not in the
room.

DOCTOR THOMAS

Mrs. Goddard, I called you here
about Jeane. She's not well.

GRACE

Call me Grace.

DOCTOR THOMAS

Okay Grace, Jeane sits alone by
herself. She don't talk to anyone,
even me anymore. Her stutter is
getting worse and worse as we
speak.

Doctor Thomas reveals a document and a pen.

GRACE

Questioning.

What's that?

DOCTOR THOMAS

Handing Grace the pen.

Her future is not here. It's with
you. A loving home, mother, father
who care for her.

GRACE

Pushes the pen away.
I can't! My job doesn't let me.

DOCTOR THOMAS
You will have to become a stay at
home mother, like most others.

GRACE
I'm not like most others. I seek
adventure.

DOCTOR THOMAS

Offering the pen again.
If you care for her and her future,
you will sign it or else, you have
no heart.

Grace takes a huge sigh, thinking over the decision.

GRACE

Accepting the pen.
Where do I sign?

DOCTOR THOMAS
The bottom of the page. You will
take full custody of the child.

GRACE

Signing.
I will need some time before I can
take her.

DOCTOR THOMAS

Stands.
Take all the time you need.

Grace finishes signing and shakes Doctor Thomas' hand.

GRACE
Is that it?

DOCTOR THOMAS
That's it. Thank Mrs. Goddard.
She'll be happy now.

GRACE
Can I see her?

DOCTOR THOMAS
Follow me!

CUT TO:

33. EXT. LOS ANGELES ORPHANS HOME-DAY.

Grace and Doctor Thomas make their way back towards the playground. Marilyn sits alone in a shadow next to the door, away from the other kids.

GRACE

Disgusted.

She's all alone!

DOCTOR THOMAS

That's what I tried to tell you.
She's too old for these kids.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Happily.

Grace!

The two run towards each other for a hug.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Hugging Grace.

I missed you!

GRACE

I missed you too. I got some
exciting news for ya.

DOCTOR THOMAS

She has signed the legal papers.
You'll be leaving soon.

TEENAGE MARILYN

With you?

GRACE

Stepping away from Marilyn.

Not today but soon. I just gotta
finish up work.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Please don't leave me here?

GRACE

It's only for a bit. I promise!

Dr. Thomas walks Grace out of the playground area.

TEENAGE MARILYN(OFF SCREEN)

I'll be waiting!

MATCH CUT TO:

34. EXT. LOS ANGELES ORPHANS HOME-DAY.

SUPER.

Two Months later.

Marilyn stands in front of the orphanage with doctor Thomas. The building is a tall, almost hospital like. A car pulls up.

DOCTOR THOMAS

This is it Jeane! You're free.

The car stops as Grace steps out.

GRACE

Ready Jeane?

Marilyn nods as she runs to the back of the car. Marilyn stuffs her bag in the trunk. She then goes to hug Grace again. Edwin Doc Goddard sits in the front seat, anxious to leave.

DOCTOR THOMAS

Goodbye Jeane!

TEENAGE MARILYN

Thanks Dr. Thomas, for everything!

CUT TO:

35. INT. MARILYN MONROE'S HOUSE LA-NIGHT.

Marilyn and Arthur sit across from each other at the dining table. They are eating burgers from McDonald's.

MARILYN

Mouth filled.

People take McDonald's too much for granted. I love it!

ARTHUR

Try chewing first.

Marilyn smiles as she chews her burger bite.

MARILYN

Deep swallow.

They should add more items to this menu. It'd make it better.

ARTHUR

Pointing to his right cheek.

You gotta little bit of...

MARILYN

Wiping her cheek with a napkin.
Did I get it?

ARTHUR

Yep!

MARILYN

I hope you're not mad about
earlier.

ARTHUR

Why would I be mad?

MARILYN

For an actress, I can tell when
people are acting and you're no
different. That really sucked.

ARTHUR

Admitting.

I am mad. That Doctor is spending
too much time with you. It ain't
healthy.

MARILYN

Mumbling.

Or is it the other way around?

ARTHUR

Subtly.

Is it?

MARILYN

No. You said that I needed help and
I've realized that it's only a
matter of time before things get
worse, so, he helps me.

ARTHUR

By making goo goo eyes?

MARILYN

Pissed.

Stop it! Just go! Arthur, I'm tired
of your jealousy.

ARTHUR

That's a big word for you. I'm
shocked you didn't stutter. Has he
even noticed that yet?

MARILYN

Ferocious.

Get out of my house!

ARTHUR

Rising.

This is my house Marilyn! You should watch your tung.

MARILYN

What is your problem?

ARTHUR

Shouting.

My problem? My problem is that everyone in this entire world wants to make out with you. And worst of all, I can't do it with you.

MARILYN

We've done it before and it didn't work.

ARTHUR

You'll never have a child! Never! Come on Marilyn, admit it! You're a gold digger who looks for the best things from unsuspecting idiots like myself.

Marilyn throws her trash at Arthur. He leaps for her, ready to hit Mrs. Monroe.

ARTHUR

You're lucky that you're famous or else, I would've killed you by now.

Arthur lets go of Marilyn. He takes a breath as Marilyn recuperates.

ARTHUR

Sitting back down at the table.

Our love is gone isn't it?

MARILYN

Cleaning herself off.

It's been gone since the Showgirl.

ARTHUR

Don't bring that boy into this.

MARILYN

We both know it's true. Just give me what I want.

ARTHUR

If I do that, you won't have a place to live and you'll be dead by sunrise.

Marilyn walks out. Arthur doesn't follow.

EXT. MARILYN MONROE'S HOUSE LA-NIGHT.

Marilyn cries behind the house, remembering a similar moment earlier on.

CUT TO:

36. INT. GRACE'S HOUSE-NIGHT.

Grace and Edwin sit together in the living room. Marilyn is upstairs in the bedroom.

GRACE

How was your day Edwin?

EDWIN

Better than expected. Hey, you seen Jeane?

GRACE

Cautiously avoiding the truth.

Not since dinner. She's been upstairs I think. Skipped supper.

EDWIN

Nervous.

Is she scared of me?

GRACE

What makes you think that?

EDWIN

You know what I've done to her.

Grace stands, unresponsive to Edwin.

EDWIN

She needs to leave. It's not good for her any more.

GRACE

Turning to Edwin.

Or is it for you?

EDWIN

Rising.

I can't let my friends know or
else, I'll be locked up.

GRACE

We can't have that.

EDWIN

She leaves.

GRACE

Will Ana take her?

EDWIN

Blatant.

She's your friend. I hate her but
hey, she'll save us both.

Marilyn peaks her head from behind a corner. The couple
doesn't notice.

GRACE

I'm her guardian. I can't abandon
her!

EDWIN

She's grown up Grace! What,
fourteen, fifteen years old? That's
not a child anymore.

Marilyn reveals herself.

EDWIN

Scarred and shocked.

Jeane! How long you been listening?

TEENAGE MARILYN

Long enough.

GRACE

So you know about leaving?

TEENAGE MARILYN

I have one condition.

EDWIN

We'll get you all the ice cream you
want, just say the word.

TEENAGE MARILYN

Tempted and firm.

That sound's really good actually,
but I want you to take care of my
mother.

GRACE

Is that all?

TEENAGE MARILYN

She needs help.

GRACE

Hugging Marilyn.

I know.

TEENAGE MARILYN

That's it.

MATCH CUT TO:

37. INT. MARILYN MONROE'S HOUSE LA-CONTINUOUS.

Marilyn stands at the bedroom doorway. Arthur comes out of
the bathroom.

ARTHUR

Unsuspecting.

Marilyn! You're back?

MARILYN

Firm.

I will never sleep with you again.
Give me the divorce. We're through!

FADE OUT: