

# **Cementville**

by J. C. Young

Based on the stageplay by Jane Martin

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FADE FROM BLACK

EXT. COUNTY HIGHWAY - DAY

A Tennessee road sign reads "Cementville 12, Memphis 105" as CARS are heard cruising past. Off-screen, a CAR DOOR opens and shuts. Next to the sign is a corner post of an old wood fence. A placard is laid in front of the post. It reads: "G.G.W.A. WRESTLING! Tonight!! Golden Globe Wrestling Association presents The Vixens of Violence!"

TITLES

Wearing a neon green jacket, wrestling promoter BIG MAN VAG chews on a cigar as he hammers the placard to the post. Then, he pulls out a sticker that reads, "Cementville Sportsdrome 7:00 pm!!" and pastes it across the bottom.

Taking a moment to admire it, he walks back to the dust-covered Lincoln. He opens the driver's door and tosses in the hammer. The passenger seat is covered in more placards and stickers from various towns. He piles in, puts the car in gear and pulls back on the road.

On the placard are several images of professional wrestlers in various action or muscle poses. In one, female wrestler Black Lightning wraps up the masked Lady Doom in a vicious leg lock.

JADINE\* (VO)  
(\*Like a TV commentator)  
...we're seein' a real barnburner here...

FADE

INT. MOBILE HOME - DAY

On a faded comforter laid on the floor, two teen girls grapple in the same hold as the pros in the poster. Donning a Lady Doom T-shirt, young NOLA strains to escape her larger cousin JADINE'S grip.

JADINE\*  
This may be all she wrote for Lady  
Doom as Black Lightnin' tightens up  
her patented Lightnin' Leg Lock.

Nola groans, then bumps Jadine off and rolls away. As Jadine gets up, Nola skillfully grabs her in a reverse headlock.

NOLA  
But, whut's this? Lady Doom's settin'  
her up for the... it's the Reaper!

Nola spins Jadine around and they drop to the floor. Jadine flops around, playing "stunned" as Nola pounces and pins her.

NOLA

1... 2... 3... It's all over...

Nola sits back, heaving for breath. Both girls laugh.

NOLA (CONT)

An' Lady Doom retains her G.G.W.A.  
women's belt with an amazing...

Suddenly, a hand reaches out and grabs a handful of her hair. Nola winces in real pain as she's pulled to her feet.

MOMMA (OS)

The Hell's goin' on, Nola?

As Nola grimaces and struggles, her MOMMA, a large red-faced woman, glares at her.

NOLA

We're jus' wrasslin', Momma!

Momma growls and shoves Nola toward the door. Jadine quickly gets up and moves aside as Momma presses her attack.

MOMMA

Wrasslin'? You're nineteen, Nola!

Nola leans against the doorframe and looks down at her feet.

MOMMA

You're too old to be roughhousin'...  
S'posed to be down at th' job agency.

Nola swallows her fear and looks directly at Momma.

NOLA

And do what? Pack boxes in the paper  
plate factory? Nothing's here, Momma!  
I'm gonna' go to Memphis.

Momma gets right in her face; her eyes blurred and bloodshot.

MOMMA

(Snorts)

Memphis. Still dreamin' of bein' a  
big wrasslin' star, little girl?

(Shoves Nola's shoulder)

Cain't even put ol' Momma on her ass.

Nola gathers herself up to stare the larger woman down.

MOMMA

What'er you gonna' do, little girl?

Nola growls and lunges at Momma, off-screen.

EXT. TRAILER PORCH - DAY

Nola is thrust out the door to the deck, landing on her rump.

MOMMA (OS)

Git down to that agency and git a  
real job, 'rasslergirl!

Jadine helps Nola up, as their shoes and bags are tossed out.  
The two girls plop down onto the steps.

NOLA

Yes, ma'am!  
(To Jadine)  
Bitch.

JADINE

Uncle Paulie used to let us 'rassle.  
He wouldn't put up with that.

NOLA

Daddy put up with a whole lotta'  
stuff before he runned off.

Nola slips on her canvas shoes as Jadine straightens her hair  
and fishes out a cigarette.

JADINE

You goin' to the matches tonight? The  
G.G.W.A.'s at the old Sportsdrome.

NOLA

I'm broke. 'Sides, Momma wouldn't let  
me go anyways.

Jadine slips on her shoes, knocks the ash off her cigarette  
and stands. She jerks her head for them to go.

EXT. ROAD SIDE - DAY

Two RV's and semi-truck pass by the Cementville highway sign;  
a faded G.G.W.A. logo is emblazoned on the truck trailer.

EXT. CEMENTVILLE STREETS - DAY

Nola and Jadine walk past chained-up factories, boarded-up stores and old houses. Town square is a ghost town, except for some boys hanging on a corner. They flirt with Jadine, and a couple tease Nola for her T-shirt. Suddenly, one boy grabs her in a headlock. She quickly whips him into a hammerlock. He struggles loose and the game is over. They shoo her away.

EXT. JOB AGENCY - DAY

Nola stops at the storefront. In the window are ads for factory workers, cleaning crews, etc. Then, she spots a G.G.W.A. poster on a nearby phone pole.

EXT. SPORTSDROME ARENA - DAY

A shadow of a bygone era, the dulled granite is a perfect fit among the empty factories and closed mills. The convoy arrives at the back of the building, where Big Man's sedan is already parked. Leaning on the fender, he grunts and pulls out a cigar as the roadies climb out of the trucks.

BIG MAN

All right, let's get it rollin'.

They open the semi-trailer and pull out parts of a wrestling ring and racks of chairs. Big Man lights his cigar, straightens his porkpie hat and heads inside.

INT. SPORTSDROME ARENA - DAY

The roadies work to assemble the ring in the empty hall.

BIG MAN (OS)

Yeah, tonight... One of my guys is down... just got out of the ER...

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Big Man paces with a cell phone as he chews his cigar. Behind him, DWAYNE PARDEE, a nervous little man with oily hair, grips a homemade autograph book. Big Man turns to better his signal.

BIG MAN (CONT)

I got bell time in six hours...

Dwayne creeps past to the locker room before Big Man turns back. Peering through the door is Nola, watching the roadies.

BIG MAN  
Yeah, thanks for nothin'.  
(Closes the phone)  
Hey, kid. Yeah, you.

Nola apprehensively steps into the dim corridor. He takes out several small bills and holds them out for her.

BIG MAN (OS)  
Wanna' earn some money?

NOLA  
Yeah, sure.

BIG MAN  
Go down there and get that locker room fixed up. Superstars need a clean place to change. I run an A-1 outfit here.

She nods, taking the money. Big Man opens his phone and dials.

TIGER (OS)  
A-1 outfit. Run by an A-1 asshole.

Nola turns. TIGER, a tall, imposing but road-weary woman, stands behind her. She holds a pet carrier and a flight bag over the shoulder of her white fringed Elvis jacket, with the words "Takin' Care of Business" on the back.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Ancient fight posters cover peeling plaster as rotting ceiling tiles droop from above. The floor is littered with generations of trash and a shower in the back is a science lab of mold and bacteria. Dwayne looks around the room, clutching his book.

DWAYNE  
Geez. Geez, I don't know...

TIGER (OS)  
Anybody home?

Trapped, Dwayne dives into a broom closet as Tiger enters.

TIGER  
Son-of-a-bitch!  
(Kicking a can)  
Hey, kid! Jesus...

NOLA (OS)  
Yo.

Nola enters as Tiger inspects the dingy room.

TIGER  
We supposed to dress in here?

NOLA (OS)  
What he said.

TIGER  
We supposed to do it standin' up?

NOLA  
Huh?

TIGER  
Benches. Aren't there any benches?

NOLA  
I don't know.

Tiger pokes her head into the bathroom. She glances down.

TIGER  
(Amused)  
There's a dead rat in the shower.

NOLA (OS)  
I don't think they work anymore.

TIGER  
Great. You talk to the big man?

NOLA  
He's been on the phone a while, real agitated.

TIGER  
Damn! Every time there's a man on a phone, my life gets screwed up. Was it a parole officer?

NOLA  
No, ma'am. Don't think so.  
(Glancing at the pet carrier)  
What's that?

TIGER  
Family.

Nola leans down to the carrier.

NOLA  
You on the poster? Here kitty...

TIGER (OS)  
Chihuahua... but, she's a better kisser  
than my ex-boyfriend. Got a smoke?

Nola fishes a crumpled pack of generics from her hip pocket.  
Tiger takes one.

TIGER  
Look, go back out there and tell the  
big man I don't dress standing up and  
no, I ain't on the poster...

At that moment, DANI MALOWSKY enters, holding a take-out tray  
with a half-eaten burrito on it. She's younger and more  
slender than Tiger, but also seems road-worn. She wears a  
cowgirl hat and a pink duffle bag slung over her shoulder.

TIGER  
She's on the poster. Go get me a  
beer. Make it a six.

Dani looks around in disbelief and disgust.

DANI  
Are you freakin' kiddin' me?

TIGER  
What's your name, kid?

NOLA  
Nola.

TIGER  
Nola, Tarzana - Queen of the Jungle.  
Tarzana, Nola - Queen of Cleaning.

DANI  
I'm not doing this. I got a  
cleanliness clause somewhere.

Tiger peeks inside random lockers. As Nola walks to the door,  
Dani puts her arm out to stop her.

NOLA  
She said she wanted some beer.

TIGER (OS)  
Hey, there's a used rubber in this  
one. Glad someone had fun in here.

DANI  
Nola. I'm Dani. Want my autograph?  
(Nola nods.)  
Then, clean this up first.

NOLA  
Sure thing, but...

DANI  
Now...

CLOSE UP - NOLA AND DANI

Nola tries to stare Dani down, but Dani gives it right back.

DANI  
I'm paid to hurt people, little girl.  
Un'erstand?

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Nola blinks. She grabs a nearby broom and gets to work.

DANI  
Good girl. Tiger, cut it out.

TIGER  
I like lookin'...

DANI  
(Spotting the carrier)  
Big Man said if you brought that rat  
dog in here, he'll eat her.

TIGER  
Be the last thing he eats. She didn't  
like that Motel 6 and I ain't leaving  
her in the trailer. Got a nosebleed.

Tiger opens the carrier and pulls the little dog out.

TIGER (CONT)  
Don't you, baby?  
(To Dani)  
I didn't get a Hell of lot of sleep  
either. You?

DANI  
Damn eighth graders. Ought to  
electocute'em. Where's Big Man?

TIGER  
On his phone... up the hall.

DANI  
And where's Eddie the ass?

Dani hangs her hat on a locker door.

TIGER

The U.S. Cruiserweight Champion?

DANI

Ain't that a bitch? Crowd loves them cruiserweights. I gotta' see me a gynecologist.

Dani drops her bag and heads to the shower room.

TIGER

Maybe you oughta' cut down on room clerks to about two a week.

NOLA

Want me to clean out some lockers?

Dani waves her away as she looks at showers.

DANI

Well, where else am I gonna' find a man? Dead rat in the shower.

TIGER (OS)

Don't work anyway.

DANI

Typical. You want a burrito?

Dani turns around and holds out the food tray.

TIGER

Sure. What town are we in?

Tiger puts her dog in the carrier and takes the tray.

DANI

Hickville. I don't know...

NOLA (OS)

Cementville...

They turn, Tiger in mid-bite of burrito. Nola looks up from sweeping up trash.

NOLA

It's Cementville, Tennessee.

Tiger and Dani snort a laugh together.

DANI  
I'm in Cementville, Tennessee with  
the Golden Globe Wrestling  
Association's All-Star Vixens of  
Violence tour! Got a painkiller?

Nola eagerly steps in.

NOLA  
How many stars?

DANI  
Gimme' five bucks.

Tiger pulls an aspirin tin from her bag. Dani takes it.

TIGER  
Don't let her hustle you, kid.

DANI  
This is a fan, Tiger. What separates  
a true fan from a mark is the inside  
dope. You a fan?

Dani takes two pills out and gives the tin back to Tiger.

NOLA  
Yes, ma'am.

DANI  
Give me five bucks, I answer three  
questions.

TIGER  
I'm going to see the big man.  
(Hands Nola some cash)  
This is for beer. Keep the change and  
watch the dog.

Tiger exits. Dani checks her pockets.

DANI  
She's got a plate in her head.

NOLA  
No.

DANI  
Yep. I banged Gene Simmons once.

NOLA  
Yeah?

Nola gives her a five. Dani tucks it under her bra strap.

DANI

Okay. The first question was how many stars? You got a cigarette?

Nola fishes out her pack again, Dani takes two, tucking one under her other bra strap. She lights the first one.

DANI

Cementville...

(Shakes her head)

You seen Madison Square Garden?

NOLA

No.

DANI

Played there once... in front of thirty-thousand. Now, I'm here.

Dani nods and takes a puff.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

The metal door bangs open, as Dani and Nola come out the emergency exit. Dani exhales smoke as she talks.

DANI

Okay, we got the big cruiserweight championship. Irish Bob Murphy versus Stosha "Wild Man" Oronovsky.

They pass by roadies carrying chairs and boxes.

DANI

Big Man plays Irish and his brother, Eddie the ass does the Ruskie. They fought for that title forty-two times so far this year.

NOLA

Irish and Wild Man are brothers?

DANI

Yeah. Well, Big Man ain't Irish, he ain't a Bob and he owes me four weeks pay. So, we open with me and Tiger...

INT. RV - DAY

Dani pops open a storage panel and pulls out a duffel bag.

DANI (CONT'D)  
Netty and Angelessa are up next.  
Then, Vernon and Curtis.  
(Tosses Nola the bag.)  
Lessa and Tiger in a mask. Then,  
Vernon and Curtis again in masks.

Walking to the door, Dani grabs a pair of boots.

DANI (CONT'D)  
The girls tag team and finally the  
big cruiserweight championship.  
(Hands Nola the boots)  
Then, a shower and we go get wasted.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

The door opens. Dani and Nola step out. Nola is carrying more things as Dani takes another drag on her cigarette.

NOLA  
Only **8** stars?

DANI  
Yep.

NOLA  
Whole thing?

Dani grinds out her smoke and walks on, Nola follows.

NOLA (CONT'D)  
What about Lady Doom?

She hurries to catch Dani as they pass the roadies.

DANI  
Sometimes Angelessa, sometimes I am.

NOLA  
She ain't even real? Damn, she was my  
favorite.

DANI  
Bitch, huh? Last question.

CLOSE UP - DANI AND NOLA

Dani turns to Nola, knowing exactly what she's going to say.

DANI & NOLA  
How can I get into professional  
wrestling?

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Dani and Nola enter, heading back to the locker room.

DANI  
One: It's crap work for crap pay.

They pass VERNON, a towering man with long hair and full beard, still in his street clothes. Dani bumps forearms with him as they pass. He nods and waves at Nola.

DANI (CONT'D)  
Two: You get foot fungus.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

The girls enter. Nola dumps her armload. Dani guides her out.

DANI (CONT'D)  
And three: Wrestlers all get bad  
attitudes and bad knees. Now, beer.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

At the doorway, they run into NETTY, a mature motherly figure and ANGELESSA, a powerful young black woman, coming in. 'Lessa wears a Walkman, two duffels and a cropped "Temple University" sweatshirt.

NETTY  
My God, was that a good, good dinner.  
Country cookin'... Green beans with all  
that good bacon fat... Oh, hey, Dani.  
(She sees Nola)  
And who's this pretty little thing?

NOLA  
Hey.

DANI  
Hired help. Doing cleanup.

They head back to the locker room; Netty puts her arm around Nola's shoulders.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Angelessa tosses her bags to the floor as they enter.

NETTY

Ooooo, it is nasty isn't it? What's your name, sweetie?

NOLA

Nola.

NETTY

Pretty name...

(Looking Nola over)

You like boys or girls, honey?

NOLA

Huh?

NETTY

You'll figure it out. Seen Eddie?

DANI

Nope. Maybe he didn't brush his teeth and died from the smell.

Netty still has her arm around Nola's shoulder as Dani goes to her locker.

NETTY

Now... he's our meal ticket and we should worry about him.

(To Nola)

Sweetie, can you bring us some benches? I'm a mature woman and I need to have a seat. Ya'll want some Black Jack gum? Lessa?

(To Dani)

Angelessa's in a mood.

DANI

She's always in a mood.

NETTY

No, she's not.

(To Nola)

Go on, now. Shoo...

Nola exits. Netty takes a moment to watch her go. Dani turns and looks at Angelessa's face, but Lessa turns away.

DANI

What happened to your eye?

ANGELESSA  
Somebody messed with me.

NETTY (OS)  
Smile and the whole world smiles.

ANGELESSA  
You smile, then. I got a hun' red  
aggravated reasons to kill.

DANI  
You, uh... going somewhere?  
(Kicks at the extra bag)  
You take off, owe me fifteen bucks.

ANGELESSA  
Get your foot off my bag.

Netty watches for Nola to return.

NETTY  
You know, you got me thinkin'... what  
if the ass O.D.'ed in his room? I  
mean he freebases, right?

DANI  
Big Man says he's clean.

NETTY  
They're brothers, honey. They got to  
speak well of each other.

Nola enters, dragging two benches.

NETTY  
You are a little dreamboat. Gum?

Nola takes a piece. Netty grins as she pops it in her mouth.

NETTY  
You seen those trunks in the hall?  
Could you drag them in here? I'm a  
big woman an' I got me a bad back.

Nola heads back out, passing Tiger on her way in. She plops  
onto one of the benches.

NETTY  
You seen the ass?

TIGER  
Not since screwin' him two years ago.

NETTY

He was at the hotel last night.

TIGER

I see him, but I don't see him.

Nola returns, dragging a large steamer trunk. She exits. Tiger pulls a Wonder Woman comic from her jacket pocket. Angelessa squats on the floor to stretch.

ANGELESSA

He's usually on time.

DANI

Yeeeeew! You getting on that floor?

TIGER

Real nasty stuff down there.

ANGELESSA

Got to stretch... warm-up.

DANI

I'm not stretching on that floor.

ANGELESSA

You never stretch.

DANI

Get off my back. I got infected ovaries...

Dana whirls around, lighting another cigarette as she walks away. Nola enters with another trunk.

NETTY

Poor thing. We be in bed without a vibrator if that ass don't show.

TIGER

Nice talk, Mama.

NETTY

Well, them people wanna' see them cruiserweights.

Tiger taps Nola on the shoulder.

TIGER

Pull that thing over here.

Nola drags a trunk over and Tiger pulls out a red tackle box with "First Aid" is written on it.

NETTY

Them marks want their money back, we  
be in bed without a vibrator.

ANGELESSA

Don't call'em marks.

NETTY

Fine. Fans...

ANGELESSA

That's better.

DANI

They're marks... rubes... hicks...

ANGELESSA

Fans.

NETTY

You two, be nice.

NOLA

Going for that beer now.

Nola exits. Angelessa points at the dog carrier.

ANGELESSA

No rat dogs or alcohol in the  
dressing area.

TIGER

Dog goes where I go. I'm in  
Cementville, Tennessee with bad ribs,  
a dog with a nosebleed and I ain't  
been paid. I'm getting a six-pack.

Tiger pulls out an unlabeled bottle. She shakes out two pills  
and swallows them, dry. Dani leans over to Angelessa.

DANI

So, what's with the bag?

ANGELESSA

Figured you gonna' do my laundry.

NETTY

See now, we're getting all bad  
tempered from this money thing...

DANI

Damn straight. I say we get cash up  
front, before the show.

ANGELESSA  
Don't call it a show.

DANI  
Lessa, you are a pain in the ass.

ANGELESSA  
I'm an athlete. I don't do shows.

DANI  
Okay, so we get cash before they  
light the Olympic torch.

TIGER  
He ain't gonna' pay up front.

DANI  
Well, if the ass did overdose, he  
ain't gonna' pay afterwards. I'm just  
getting' tired of his kickin' our  
butts all over the lot.

ANGELESSA (OS)  
Kept you off the streets.

CLOSE UP - DANI AND ANGELESSA

She whirls to glare at Lessa.

DANI  
I told you I don't like that talk.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Behind them, Tiger continues to read her comic book.

NETTY  
Big Man does have his traits. Some  
good... some bad.

DANI  
I'm talking about getting paid!

NETTY  
Nobody here is starving to death.

DANI  
Lessa? Four weeks, right Lessa?  
Four weeks, right?

Dani steps in front of Angelessa. Lessa continues to stretch,  
listening to her Walkman, she pulls out one plug to hear.

DANI (CONT'D)  
You didn't get paid, right?

ANGELESSA  
I'm into my warm-up, okay? Getting my  
game face. Puts my mind in the ring.

DANI  
You better not got paid, Lessa. I  
don't care what Olympics you was in.

ANGELESSA  
Girl, if I'd got paid, you'd be  
talkin' to the air.

INT. CONVENIENT STORE - DAY

Nola puts a carton of beer bottles on the counter. The clerk  
looks at her. Behind him, is a "We Card" sign. She smiles.

NOLA  
Hey, Floyd. Just somethin' for Momma...

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Netty looks back at Tiger.

NETTY  
I'm just worried about Eddie. If he's  
hurt or sick, well...

Lessa looks at Tiger, and they both grin.

TIGER AND ANGELESSA  
We're in bed without a vibrator!

They laugh and high-five.

DANI  
Well, I have financial obligations.

ANGELESSA  
You still payin' your pimp?

Dani surges at Lessa, but Tiger steps in front of her.

TIGER  
Enough, okay? Jesus, I hate women.

Netty hangs a mirror on the inside of an open locker.

NETTY

Must be a full moon, I swear.

TIGER

Let's just run the card and get out  
of this pisshole.

(Points to her carrier)

I gotta' get her to a vet, okay? That  
sure as Hell ain't here.

INT. SPORTSDROME ARENA - DAY

Big Man and several roadies are standing around the finished  
ring. A large cardboard box sits on the floor nearby.

BIG MAN

Lookin' good, boys...

He opens the box and hands out black T-shirts. They're plain,  
except for the word "SECURITY" in white letters on the front.

BIG MAN

Find a good fit. And I want'em back.

As the roadies pick out shirts, Nola walks past, clutching a  
brown paper bag.

BIG MAN

Hey... you... Stringbean!

NOLA

(Stops, but doesn't turn)

Yes, sir?

BIG MAN

Get downstairs and get what I told  
you to get.

NOLA

I'm on it.

He eyes her suspiciously as she scurries off, then turns back.

BIG MAN

All right, guess we better start  
lettin' 'em in.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Nola returns with the brown bag. She pulls out the beer.

NOLA

Had to go a ways; kept gettin'  
carded. Corona okay?

TIGER

Everybody cool?  
(Looks at the bottles)  
What is that? Japanese?

NETTY

Oooooo, Corona's good stuff. From  
down Me-hico way...

TIGER

Looks like pee water.

NETTY (CONT)

Had some good times on that beer.

Tiger pops off the top with her teeth as Big Man enters.

BIG MAN

Okay, ladies... Pow-wow time.

NETTY

Having a hard day, honey.

Netty pats his shoulder. But, Big Man spots the dog carrier

BIG MAN

You got that frog dog in here?  
Goddammit, Tiger.

Big Man grabs the carrier and storms into the hall.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Tiger cuts Big Man off. She grabs a hold of the carrier.

TIGER

You will regret touchin' this dog.

She glares at him and pulls at the case. His grip stays firm.

BIG MAN

The motel called. Seems you didn't  
pay your check at the cafe, Tiger.

TIGER

Sour milk, green roast beef on wet  
toast. The Hell I'm payin'.

BIG MAN  
Pay the friggin' bill, all right? We  
got to be good citizens.

TIGER  
If I'd ate that sandwich, I'd be a  
dead citizen.

Dani steps in between them.

DANI  
And what's she supposed to pay with?

BIG MAN  
I got a lot of problems. I don't want  
to hear this minute crap.

DANI  
Don't sweat the small stuff, huh?  
Get to the heart of the problem?

Tiger pulls the carrier free and heads back to the locker  
room. Big Man tries to follow, but Dani cuts him off.

BIG MAN  
Yeah. Tell me about it.

DANI  
Paychecks.

On a reflex, Big Man SMACKS her head with an open hand.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Hearing the hit, Tiger stops mid-step. She shuts her eyes and  
shakes her head.

TIGER  
Damn.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Dani stares, mouth agape. But, the shock quickly wears off.

DANI  
You hit me.

BIG MAN  
No, I didn't.

He steps around her and goes after Tiger. Dani pursues.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Big Man strides up to Tiger to take back the case.

DANI  
You hit me in the head.

BIG MAN  
Sit down and listen up.

DANI  
I don't take that from anyone! No one  
crosses that line! You hear?

ANGELESSA (OS)  
Chill out.

Big Man gives up on the dog carrier. He turns to Dani, who  
points a finger at Lessa.

DANI  
Butt out.

BIG MAN  
I didn't hit you.

DANI  
You... hit... me.

BIG MAN  
You ever have a coach, Dani?

DANI  
What?

BIG MAN  
You ever play a sport? Softball?

DANI  
The Hell does this have to...

BIG MAN  
I cuffed you.

DANI  
So?

BIG MAN  
The cuff is how you get a player's  
attention. It says "wake up, you are  
being communicated with!"

DANI

Wake up! I'm communicating that you  
owe me four weeks pay!

He cuffs her again, harder. She lunges at him. A moment later,  
Tiger and Netty are pulling her back.

CLOSE-UP OF DANI

Enraged and frothing.

DANI

Touch me again!! Touch me and I'll  
take your damned hand off!

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Big Man dismisses her with a sneer.

BIG MAN

I got no time for this crap.

ANGELESSA

Can I ask you a question?

BIG MAN

In a minute. Dani... Dani, your  
problem is inappropriate behavior.  
Like pissin' on the sidewalk.

DANI

Let go of me.

BIG MAN

An athlete is physical... focused. A  
sprinter, waiting for the start...  
Chicago could blow up, they won't  
hear it. You want to communicate...

He puts a hand on her shoulder; she squirms loose.

BIG MAN

You gotta' cuff'em. All I'm sayin'...

He looks down at a spot on his jacket.

BIG MAN (CONT)

What is this? You got some kind of  
crap on me. For this I should hit  
you. Jeezus, look at this. I cuff  
you. I never hit you. Clear?

Dani turns and lays her forearm into a locker, loudly.

BIG MAN (CONT'D)  
Are we clear?

CLOSE UP OF DANI

She hits the locker with another forearm blow.

DANI  
(Quietly)  
Yeah, we're clear.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Nola enters, carrying a water pail.

BIG MAN  
Good.  
(To Lessa)  
You had a question.

ANGELESSA  
Are we workin'? We gonna' wrestle?

BIG MAN  
Okay, listen up..  
(Spots the beer carton)  
Is that beer? Is that a beer I see  
before me? What is my position on  
beer in the dressing room?

ANGELESSA  
No beer.

BIG MAN  
Right. Whose is it?

TIGER  
Mine.

BIG MAN  
I'm making an exception tonight.

He holds up a hand. Tiger tosses him a beer. Netty watches Nola go by, then gives her a pat on her behind. Nola jumps.

NETTY  
You doin' real nice.

BIG MAN

What is this, Bulgarian? Jeeminy Christmas. People don't buy American, then piss about the country goin' down the tubes.

(Takes a swig)

Not bad.

Dani still leans against the lockers. Netty leans in.

NETTY

Just forget it.

DANI

You forget it.

BIG MAN

Okay, everybody listening? Lessa?

(No response)

Lessa, jeez... Take five.

(Takes another drink)

You know that you girls are like family. You tour with me, you're family. But, we got a situation.

Nola drags in a two-sided changing unit with a mirror.

BIG MAN

Hey! Not now.

NOLA

But, you said...

BIG MAN

Not now, later.

She nods and pushes the unit out.

BIG MAN

We got a situation. Now, we're in...

TIGER

Tennessee.

BIG MAN

I know that. What am I, a moron? Where in freakin' Tennessee?

TIGER

Cementville.

BIG MAN

Yeah, good wrestlin' town. They've had Fight Night here on Saturdays for years. Bill Walla used to book here. He slacks off, I get us the date. The strong survive, right?

NETTY

Right.

BIG MAN

Right. We draw big, I snatch up other Tennessee dates. See the picture? But, we got a situation. My brother...  
(Takes off his hat)  
An all-star. A man who worked for six years in the big time... the original W.W.F. A man who could put butts in the seats... What?

In the back of the others, Dani has her hand raised.

DANI

I gotta' potty.

BIG MAN

Later.

DANI

Later? I gotta' go.

BIG MAN

Dani. The Gettysburg Address, Pearl Harbor... There are times you hold it.

ANGELESSA (OS)

Big Man?

Whirls around, his face getting red.

BIG MAN

What?

ANGELESSA

Look at this place. They got no fights here on Saturdays.

BIG MAN

I said in this town, over at the Hertzberger Arena. They bumped Billy for a goddamned ice show.

DANI

So you booked us in the Hilton here.

BIG MAN

Hey, this is a famous fight joint.  
Jake Lamotta, Ezzard Charles...

DANI

Who were they, cavemen?

BIG MAN

Willie Pep, Kid Gavilan, Archie  
Moore. This here is a place of  
worship. Gods... I'm not makin' this  
up, gods spilled blood in here.

DANI

Apparently they pissed in here too.

Dani and Tiger laugh.

BIG MAN

Knock it off, Dani. Who the Hell were  
you? Who the Hell are you? And who  
the Hell you gonna' be when I dump  
you?

(Silence)

We work the card right and next time,  
we are in Hertzberger. What am I  
talking for here? My brother... My  
brother is indisposed.

NETTY

I knew it.

DANI

What? He can't work a match drunk?

Suddenly, Big Man grabs Dani by her throat, slamming her into  
the lockers. He holds her there, glaring at her. She's frozen.

TIGER

Whoa!

Just as suddenly, he releases Dani, puts his head in his hands  
and begins to sob.

BIG MAN

Oh man, oh man...

Netty guides him to a bench.

NETTY

Come on, honey. Sit down, darlin'.

BIG MAN  
I'm okay. I'm okay.

TIGER  
You wanna' shot?  
(To Lessa)  
Inside my bag. I got a half-pint..

Angelessa shakes her head. Tiger turns to Netty.

TIGER (CONT'D)  
Wild turkey.

NETTY  
Half-pint coming up.

BIG MAN  
I'm okay, get off me.

Big Man stands up and backs away as Angelessa checks on Dani.

ANGELESSA  
You okay?

Coughing, Dani waves Angelessa off.

CLOSE UP - TIGER'S BAG

Netty takes out the whiskey bottle.

NETTY (OS)  
Here it is.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Tiger takes the bottle from Netty and holds it out to Big Man.

TIGER  
Try this.

BIG MAN  
(Reeling back)  
I'm in freakin' A.A., Tiger.

TIGER  
You were just drinkin' beer.

BIG MAN  
Beer ain't real booze. You don't hand  
a half-pint to a man in A.A. Have  
some freakin' consideration.

Tiger puts the bottle away as Netty grabs up his beer.

NETTY

She's sorry. Have your beer.

Big Man takes a drink as Nola drags in the dressing unit.

NOLA

Comin' through.

BIG MAN

Hey! I said when I said.

NOLA

You said later. It's later.

BIG MAN

Take it back in the hall. Smoke a joint or something. I'll call you.

Nola sighs and shoves the furniture back out again.

BIG MAN

Eddie... my own brother...

NETTY

Easy, big fella'. Not dead, is he?

BIG MAN

Sumbitch... I got one-hundred bucks... no questions... anybody knows who was in his room last night.

Silence. Lessa turns to her locker. Big Man notices her. Dani steps between Big Man and Lessa.

BIG MAN (CONT'D)

You know something Lessa?

DANI

Some whore...

BIG MAN

You see her?

DANI

Local douche bag. Big blonde wig.

BIG MAN

She with him?

DANI

In the hall. He was tanked.

BIG MAN

I find this skank, she's dead. I cut off her tits... pull her inside out by her tongue... This is my brother...

(Pounds his chest)

Blood of my blood... I'm full up. I got feelings up to here.

Netty pats his shoulder.

NETTY

Strong feelin's.

BIG MAN

Yeah.

TIGER

We canceling?

BIG MAN

No, we don't cancel! What do you mean talkin' cancel? I'm a professional. Like Donald freakin' Trump.

ANGELESSA

(Stepping up)

I'll take you. Let me wrestle you.

BIG MAN

Get outta' here.

ANGELESSA

I'll do it in a bikini... or we can do a shoot... wrestle straight.

BIG MAN

Straight? You a brain transplant?

ANGELESSA

I'm Olympia, the original Olympic athlete, remember?

CLOSE UP ON DANI AND ANGLESSA

DANI

Olympics... Nineteenth in shot put.

Lessa whirls to face Dani.

ANGELESSA

Well, I was there. Where were you?

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Big Man turns Anglessa to face him.

BIG MAN

Lessa... straight looks like crap from the seats, not enough action. Folks rather watch the paint dry. Second, I win, who cares... You win? They can put O.D.B. or Kong up against guys, but no one's gonna' buy some skinny black chick icing a cruiserweight contender. This whole business lost on you? I got a brother in the hospital, for Christ sake, I don't have time...

Netty taps Big Man on the shoulder.

NETTY

How about Vernon or Curtis?

BIG MAN

Vernon an' Curtis are out of my weight class. The marks know that. 'Sides, it was supposed to be the Cruiserweight championship. Eddie's champ. Can't have a title match without the champ.

TIGER

So, we're cancelled?

BIG MAN

What is a booker?  
(Looks at them)  
I'm serious, what's a booker?

TIGER

Guy with the front money?

NETTY

Makes the arrangements?

DANI

Dicks people over with promises?

BIG MAN

No... no... and no. He's a farmer... From piss he makes peaches.

TIGER

Get outta' here.

NETTY

That is a nice thought.

BIG MAN

Thank you. No Eddie... this is like a huge monster problem. Do we fold? Hell, no. I got responsibilities to my family here. I'm like your father.

DANI

Hand me one of the beers, will ya?

Tiger fishes one out of the carton and tosses it to Dani.

BIG MAN

I get on the phone. I get us a replacement. I see a problem as an opportunity. Make a big move, get a big payoff. So, who did I get?

DANI

Gorgeous freakin' George back from the dead?

Dani does a "zombie" impression, Tiger laughs.

BIG MAN

The Knockout Sisters.

NETTY

Are you kiddin'?

TIGER

(Cupping her hands)

The blondes with the big implants?

BIG MAN

Dateline... O'Reilly Factor... presenters at the goddamned C.M.T. awards!

ANGELESSA

They're comin' here?

BIG MAN

Bingo.

ANGELESSA

Didn't they get picked up in some drug raid? In a motel, banging some California mayor?

DANI

Aren't they banned from wrestling?

BIG MAN  
People can forgive.

TIGER  
They were on the cover of Juggs doing  
a sandwich with that same mayor.

BIG MAN  
No such thing as bad publicity.

ANGELESSA  
Barred for life, I heard.

BIG MAN  
Look, W.W.E. and T.N.A... These are  
corporate entities. The G.G.W.A. lets  
me be independent.

TIGER  
They're in the slam. Five bucks.

BIG MAN  
Then, give it to me. Read this.

Big Man pulls out a rolled up newspaper. Netty grabs the paper  
first. Tiger looks over her shoulder.

INSERT: LOCAL NEWS SECTION

The two-column headline reads, "Knockout Sisters Free at Last.  
Dottie and Dolly home with Mama."

BIG MAN (OS)  
Mama lives in Cairo, Tennessee.  
Freakin' Cairo. I'm genius or I'm  
genius? Peaches from piss, right?

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Tiger points at Big Man.

TIGER  
You pulled that off?

BIG MAN  
One phone call. Tell me I'm good.

DANI  
You're an animal.

BIG MAN  
Tell me I'm good.

DANI  
You're good.

BIG MAN  
Bet your sweet ass I'm good.

DANI  
What're you payin' them?

He blinks, then turns for the door.

BIG MAN  
Okay, I got a lot to do.

DANI  
I don't get paid, I'm gone.

ANGELESSA  
I get paid, and I'm still gone.

REVERSE ON DOORWAY

Big Man is all smiles as he walks out.

BIG MAN  
Ladies, don't promise what you can't  
deliver. I'm setting the card. The  
sisters are on their way. Cairo's  
about a half-hour drive. First half  
as planned. Get ready.  
(Stops at the door)  
Yes! Touchdown!  
(Spikes his hat to the floor)  
You wanta' see a booker, ladies? Big  
Man, he says, he does, it's done. You  
better believe it.

Big Man grabs his hat and goes out.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Tiger turns to Lessa, as the ladies get down to business.

TIGER  
How much support wrap you got?

ANGELESSA  
Six foot roll.

TIGER  
I'll buy it. How much?

ANGELESSA  
Just take it.

Angelessa tosses Tiger the wrap as Dani loads her locker.

DANI  
He's gotta' pay them what?

NETTY  
Mucho dinero.

DANI  
Man, that yanks my chain.

ANGELESSA  
They get paid, we get paid.

Nola returns once more with the dressing unit.

NOLA  
Incoming!

TIGER  
(Pulls out her comic)  
You guys seen their act?

ANGELESSA  
Can't work a ring... got no skills...

NETTY  
Yeah. But, they got 'it'.

ANGELESSA  
Coupla' crack whores. Embarrassing to  
share the same room with'em.

DANI  
They just stand and pose...

ANGELESSA  
Stand... pose... Hell, the way I hear it,  
they was in some Danish sex show... Man  
Mountain Montgomery zipped up his fly  
and discovered them. You seen their  
"signature" move? The Va-Va-Voom!

Behind them, Nola plugs in the dressing unit. Most of the  
mirror lights come on. Angelessa moves next to her.

ANGELESSA (CONT'D)  
They do this double bump and grind  
and their opponent collapses.

She bumps her hip against Nola's. Nola laughs and bumps back.

TIGER

What the Hell is that?

NOLA

Dressing table. It was in the  
Rosemary Clooney room...

TIGER

Say what?

NOLA

Little room downstairs. Got about two  
inches of water on the floor, and no  
lights. But, there's this poster of  
Rosemary Clooney on the door and a  
buncha' dead roses in it.

NETTY

Who's she?

TIGER

Singer. She's dead now.

DANI

Some real talent played this dump?

NOLA

Seemed pretty real in the picture.

DANI

So, who do you think is getting this  
fine Rosemary Clooney table?

ANGELESSA

The bimbos.

Dani nods. Lessa goes back to unpacking.

NETTY

Now, ya'll listen here...

DANI

I don't want to hear it.

NETTY

I may be just an old Alabama  
waitress, but I make more wrestlin'  
three nights a week...

TIGER

When we're lucky...

NETTY (CONT'D)

...than I did slingin' hash for six and I ain't the only one who owes Big Man for getting into show business an' havin' a better life, praise Jesus.

DANI

Preach it, sister. She's rolling now.

NETTY

People who ain't stayin' should get goin' and those who're stayin' should get dressed.

NOLA

Nola stands in middle of the room as the others flurry past.

NOLA

I seen them Knockouts on TV. Dolly's short but, she's all mean an' sneaky... you know hateful. Dottie smiles like a movie star, dances, fluffs her hair... and she has a tarantula spider.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Dani rolls her eyes as she adjusts her sports bra.

DANI

Great.

NOLA

And they dead sexy as Hell with these Cher costumes that shine like diamonds. They come all on to them fans, who get riled up and love'em.

ANGELESSA

What's your name, girl?

NOLA

Nola.

ANGELESSA

Okay, Nola. Shut... the... fuck... up.

NOLA

Sorry.

Netty tapes her wrists as Angelessa undresses.

NETTY

Got me a bruise big as a elephant.

ANGELESSA

Netty, I'm a pro. I don't get hurt when I work a ring, an' nobody workin' a ring with me gets hurt. You put a couple of showgirls in there and somebody's gonna' end up on their ass. They mess up or blow a spot; bottom line, I'll take'em out.

DANI

Well, I really don't think you'll have a problem with that.

ANGELESSA

Why's that?

DANI

Cause you ain't gonna' be in the ring with'em anyway. The tag title is next month. Tiger an' me is up.

ANGELESSA

Tiger ain't got the moves. She's on the DL. Plus, they're gonna' want heels in there. You're our main baby. You don't play bad girl.

DANI

Get this. I make fifty more a week. I'm on the poster. I get top bill, I do the girl's top match.

ANGELESSA

Well, you see how it goes down.

DANI

I got a contract!

Netty turns to Tiger, who's slumped on a bench.

NETTY

How you feelin', honey?

TIGER

Like crap. Stifferen' Hell.

ANGELESSA

(Puts her headset back on)  
All bets are off. Better believe it.

TIGER (OS)  
...and about a third mobility.

DANI  
You want your stuff, Netty?

NETTY  
I want romance.

Dani opens a trunk. She takes an outfit and hands it to Netty.

DANI  
Romance on the road, huh? I don't  
think the kid's your type. Tiger?

TIGER  
I want some major chemicals, a beach,  
an' a hunnert' comic books.

Dani hands Tiger a crimson, one-piece covered with studs.

DANI  
I want a cruise vacation. Marry me  
some A-rab that we ain't bombed yet.  
(Hangs up a mirror)  
What about you, kid?

NOLA  
I wanna' wrestle.

DANI  
Yeah, it's a freakin' paradise in  
wrestlin'... the travel opportunities,  
glamorous companionship, luxurious  
surroundings, and the big money... Plus  
you get to meet crack whores who go  
down on politicians.

Walking past Nola, Dani ruffles her hair. The women get dressed: Dani as Tarzana (a leopard-print one-piece), Tiger as Bloody Mary, and Angelessa as Black Lightning (black leotard with lightning bolts). Netty puts on a set of silk sleepwear over her underwear, elbow pads and kneepads.

NETTY  
I've done twenty-six different jobs.  
Dry cleanin', road work, assembly  
line, store clerk, bartender...

ANGELESSA (OS)  
Where's my belt?

Tiger pulls a belt out of the trunk and tosses it to her.

NETTY (CONT)

... slaughter house, hotel maid, post office, firefighter, fast food, sewer sweep. This is as close to a star as I'm gonna' get.

Nola moves to stand in front of Netty.

NOLA

I know the moves... I can take a bump!

NETTY

Uh-huh. That's nice, honey.

NOLA

Been watchin' 'rasslin' on TV since I could sit in my Daddy's lap... been going to matches on my own since middle school. Hip toss, arm drag, body slam, camel clutch, Boston crab, drop kick... I know all of 'em.

NETTY

Well sure, moves is your basic... But you got combination spots, rest holds, knowin' when to make heat.

(Looking in the mirror)

That's when you get the crowd all riled up.

NOLA

What do you call that?

NETTY

Nightie Night Netty.

TIGER, DANI, ANGELESSA

She puts'em to sleep!

Netty puts a hand on Nola's shoulder.

NETTY

Would you want to come back to the RV after the show?

DANI (OS)

She'll show you some moves you ain't seen before...

NETTY

Now, that ain't nice. I don't work your side of the street. You oughta' give me some room.

DANI

Hell, there's enough hotel clerks to go around.

NOLA

Sure.

Nola nods, eagerly.

NETTY

What's that, sweetie?

NOLA

I'd like to... get a few tips.

NETTY

Uh-huh. Well, okay then.

Dani walks by and leans in to whisper at Netty.

DANI

Surgeon General oughta' stick a warning label on your crotch.

NETTY

You just knock that off.

Netty slaps Dani on the shoulder. Dressed for her match, Angelessa kneels and bows her head.

DANI

Will you stop prayin'? Hate that.

CLOSE UP - ANGELESSA

Lessa looks at herself in the dressing table mirror.

ANGELESSA

How we supposed to do this if the blow-up twins got the only mirror?

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Dani laces up the back of Tiger's one-piece.

TIGER

And what the Hell happened to Eddie? I've heard this and that, but how come the man ain't workin' his match? Sure, he's an ass, but he's our ass.

NETTY

Well, you know Eddie.

TIGER

Yeah, I know Eddie. Probably dropped some bad crank.

NETTY

He said he's clean. He did say his left hand was getting a little numb.

TIGER

I seen him work hurt... finished a match with a sprained ankle.

NETTY

Heart attack?

She gazes hard at her own reflection.

ANGELESSA

Somebody bit his dick off.

DANI (OS)

Sure, you wish.

ANGELESSA

I'm tellin' you.

DANI

Bull.

ANGELESSA

Okay, they didn't bite it off.

The other women move in to hear.

TIGER

You are kiddin', right?

ANGELESSA

Two A.M. There's this screamin', an' Eddie's on floor in the hall.

NETTY

Who would do such a thing?

DANI

They'd die of food poisoning.

She glances to Tiger, who nods and gives her the thumbs up.

ANGELESSA

Pretty ugly, thrashing around and wailin'. I called nine-one-one and then I did a tourniquet with some dental floss. Shut off the bleedin', but he passed out.

NETTY

You did a tourniquet with floss?

TIGER

Jeezus H.

NETTY

I told him to stop messin' with strange. How much got bit off?

ANGELESSA

I didn't have a ruler.

NETTY

Shoot, I would have serviced him, he weren't so damned mean.

TIGER

Jesus, Mama...

NETTY

Well, that poor man didn't have a thing in this world except his pride and now it's bit off.

TIGER

Maybe, they can sew it back on. They say if you lose a finger like in a lawn mower, wrap it in tissue and take it down to the hospital.

DANI

They wrap his thing in a tissue?

ANGELESSA

They put it one of them Glad bags.

NETTY

Some men you can picture without a penis, but Eddie ain't one of them.

TIGER

Did he not pay her?

ANGELESSA

Maybe, he hit her.

DANI

Life's funny, isn't it? You're the one hates his ass so much an' here you are the only one to help.

NETTY

You think he can come back and wrestle without it?

DANI

Didn't work when he had it.

NETTY

Now, speakin' ill of the man when he's bad off.

DANI

I'll speak ill on his best day. He's a schizoid scumbag. Ain't nobody here, except the kid, who don't know it personal.

The women break up and get back to business.

TIGER

Well, whoever done it put us in a Hell of a fix that's for sure. This tour folds, we a bunch of worn out ol' broads on the street.

Tiger takes out a tin of can of high-end dog food.

TIGER (CONT)

Word gets out that one of us chomped off his Johnson, they'd hire Hells Angels in drag before us. I got no other skills, an armed robbery conviction, and a sick dog. Now, let's just kiss ass and wrestle.

She pops the top and places the can into the carrier. Suddenly, there's a THUMP from the closet. They all turn.

DANI

You hear that? More rats. We're in this hellhole with rats.

NETTY

Take it easy..

DANI

No way. Nooooo way.

Angelessa whips the door open. Dwayne stands before them, squinting from the lights and clutching his autograph book.

DWAYNE  
How you all doin'?

TIGER  
Son of a...

DANI  
You scruffy little maggot, what you doin' in there?

ANGELESSA  
Come outta' there, cracker.

Angelessa grabs him by his jacket and pulls him out.

DWAYNE  
Yes, ma'am. Dwayne Pardee. How do?

ANGELESSA  
How am I doin'? What're you doin' in a broom closet, Dwayne whatsit?

DANI  
You lookin' for Rosemary Clooney?

TIGER  
(Grabs Dwayne's lapels)  
Or lookin' for a little peepshow?

ANGELESSA  
You in there chokin' your little chicken?

DWAYNE  
No, ma'am. I wasn't chokin' nothin'.

NETTY  
You been in there a while, honey.

DWAYNE  
Yes, ma'am.

Netty steps over to him, moving Tiger back.

NETTY  
Well, you wanta' tell Mama why?

DWAYNE  
Yes, ma'am. I'm an autograph collector. An autograph professional.

DANI  
Professional nutjob.

NETTY  
Hush now.  
(To Dwayne)  
You been there a few hours waitin'  
for our autographs?

DWAYNE  
Yes'em. Well... you see... I was, you  
know... and uh... this big fellow he uh...

NETTY  
He put you out?

DWAYNE  
Yes, ma'am. He did. And I... you know...

NETTY  
You snuck back in?

DWAYNE  
That's what I did, yes ma'am.

TIGER  
Netty, get him outta' here.

NETTY  
This is a fan, okay? He's a fan.

DANI  
He's a freakin' perv.

Dwayne retreats from them as he flips open the book.

DWAYNE  
No, ma'am. An autograph professional.  
I got... I got every famous person ever  
been in Cementville since...  
(He stops on a page)  
Ronnie Van Zant back in seventy-six,  
right before the plane crash. God  
bless him and Lynard Skynard... See  
seventy-six... I was just a boy. Gene  
Hackman... See this here is American  
heroes, the American way right here  
in Cementville. O.J. Simpson. See?  
(Flips the pages again)  
Donna Douglas, you know from the  
Beverly Hillbillies.

DWAYNE (CONT.)

See this here is goin' in a time capsule. Tammy Faye, God bless her. This my life's work.

NETTY

You want us to sign your book?

DWAYNE

Yes, ma'am. I surely do. Yes, ma'am.

NETTY

Now Dwayne, you wasn't watchin' us get dressed through a crack or somethin' and playing around in there, was you? 'Cause then, we'd have to kill you a little bit.

DWAYNE

No, ma'am. No, ma'am. I was not.

NETTY

Okay, we'll sign your book, then.

Netty takes his book and turns to a blank page.

DWAYNE

God bless you. You just an American beauty rose in my book. You American heroes, God bless your pure hearts.

The women take a turn signing a page and passing the book, including Nola.

DWAYNE (OS) (CONT'D)

You gonna' be in the time capsule. Be there when Christ comes back. You the mothers of America. One to a page, ma'am... You the heart of us men folks, the arms that swing the cradle.

Nola hands the book to Netty and she hands it to Dwayne.

DWAYNE (CONT)

You on a pedestal, a high pedestal to Dwayne Pardee. Yes, sir. You may be just prostitutes an' wrasslers, but you mean home to me...

NETTY

Okay, Dwayne. We got it together.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

You cut from the cloth of Jesus' momma. Yes, ma'am. I'm speakin' for your Daddies... for your husbands and sons when I say to you: get you home an' get me some dinner, bitch!

Dwayne clutches his book and points, like a fiery preacher.

DANI

Oh, man...

DWAYNE

Goin' ta' town in your lipstick! Paradin' yourself like Jezebel, bringing down the temple with your lascivious hips!!

ANGELESSA

Let's take a walk...

Angelessa approaches him, but suddenly, Dwayne turns and grabs Tiger around the waist.

DWAYNE

Touch me, Loretta! Touch me an' rub me an' take me to heaven!

She yelps from the sharp pain in her side. Angelessa grabs Dwayne's hair. Wincing, he lets go. She hammerlocks his arm.

ANGELESSA

Move!

As Angelessa drags him away, Dwayne's book hits the floor.

DWAYNE

My book... gimme' my book! I'm a autograph professional... and you're hurtin' my arm!

ANGELESSA

I'm gonna' break your arm. Walk!

As they exit, Tiger slumps against the lockers.

TIGER

Damn...

DANI

You okay, Tiger?

TIGER

Hell, no. Don't touch me!

NETTY

Stand up. It's better, honey.

TIGER

(Sliding onto a bench)

Hold on... Son-of-a-bitch... ow... damn...  
mother-brother-son-of-a-bitch! Kiss  
my ass, dammit!

Dani and Netty crack a smile.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

The rusted metal door bangs open as Angelessa shoves Dwayne outside. Tiger's cursing is muffled by the door.

ANGELESSA

Move it, De-wayne.

DWAYNE

Ow... oh my Ethiopian queen... you are  
truly beautiful and powerful... Let me  
anoint thee with musk oil...

(He grabs her arm)

Come with me... and I will worship you  
like the queen you are.

Lessa sighs, she's had enough. She scoops up Dwayne and stuffs him headfirst into a garbage can. She picks up another can and dumps it over his legs, then opens the door.

TIGER (OS)

I hate wrasslin'... ow... damn ribs...  
shoulda' torn the bastard's stones  
off... hung'em on the rear view like a  
pair of fuzzy dice...

Lessa cracks a smile at the ranting. She kicks the cans over.

ANGELESSA

Adios, De-wayne.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Tiger scoops up a towel and wings it at the others, who are laughing even harder at her frustration.

TIGER

...itch all over, fleas, lice... get the goddamn bubonic in this pisshole... What the Hell ya'll laughin' at? You buncha' putrid, cross-eyed, flat-chested, slung-assed, piss-ant broads?!?

(Starts giggling)

Don't me make laugh. Dammit!

Dani puts a hand on Tiger's shoulder.

DANI

You aren't mad, are you, Tiger?

TIGER

I'm freakin' ecstatic!

NOLA (OS)

He left his book.

Nola picks up Dwayne's book, but Dani snatches it away.

DANI

Give me that. Pervert!

Dani tears out some pages and tosses the book out the door.

DANI

You know they got celebrity insurance. All them nutjobs out there trying to shoot movie stars.

TIGER

We ain't movie stars.

Nola kneels down and picks up some the loose pages.

NOLA

You think he was kind of crazy?

DANI

Yeah, an' he ain't the worst. We're the pastime of losers and whack jobs. When you go crazy tryin' to live a normal life, they send you over here for wrestlin' night.

NOLA

Who's David Duke?

Netty frets over Tiger as Angelessa returns.

NETTY  
How long you think he was in there?

ANGELESSA  
(Grabs her mask)  
Probably grew there like a mushroom.

NETTY  
Talkin' the good book...

ANGELESSA  
I was married to a preacher once. I  
didn't need a soul mate.

TIGER  
Give me a hand up.

Netty helps Tiger to her feet. Angelessa puts on her mask.

ANGELESSA  
Tie me.

DANI  
Sure thing.

Dani knots Angelessa mask. Out in the arena, the bell RINGS.

RING ANNOUNCER (OS)  
\*Filtered through a PA.  
Ladies and gentlemen, the Golden  
Globe Wrestling Association welcomes  
you to the Cementville Sportsdrome  
and the Vixens of Violence Tour...

Big Man bursts in from the hallway as the crowd ROARS.

BIG MAN  
All right, gimme' your attention..  
(Calls back outside)  
Come on in here, Mother.

Enter MOTHER CROCKER, a rough-looking woman in her mid-fifties, wearing a black church dress and pearls.

BIG MAN  
This here is Mother Crocker, Mama and  
manager of the Knockout Sisters... Come  
on, step in. She'd like to give a  
little game plan on how it comes down  
tonight.

Mother chews on a cigarillo, as she looks the room over.

BIG MAN (OS)

Mother, I'd like to welcome you to the Golden Global Wrestling Association. We got the finest up and coming workers around. And I'd like to express my respects on the job you've done makin' The Knockout Sisters a world attraction.

MOTHER

Pretty run-down lookin' bunch.

BIG MAN (OS)

Wait til' you see them in action!

MOTHER

You're all dead meat... a two-bit tour playin' morgue dates. Buncha' never-was, never-will-be talent on the way down. I wouldn't be caught dead puttin' my top attraction in this pisshole, but I got a public relations issue. See, we messed up, got ourselves into politics and it crimped our image.

Mother takes a walk-thru as she inspects the girls.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

On the upside, we may get a film deal out of that, we're still negotiatin'... While we're slummin' with you girls, you're gonna' have ace crowds and make the only decent money you'll ever make in this business. And while we're together, your pimp here...

(Points to Big Man)

Will be getting me coffee. Got that? I say shag a sheep, he shags a sheep.

BIG MAN

Great sense of humor she has, huh?

MOTHER

Now, think this one over. How do you think a couple hometown girls became the biggest attraction in sports entertainment? Right. We're mobbed up, like ol' blues eyes. Capice?

Mother makes a closed-fingered Italian gesture at them.

MOTHER (CONT)

Now, wrestling can wear out an attraction, which is why we're movin' into film. Meanwhile, don't bruise the meat. Understand? You injure, deface or otherwise lower the dollar value of my investment, you'll be getting a visit from a Sicilian, got it? Dolly... Dottie... get it in here.

REVERSE ON LOCKER ROOM DOOR

The sisters enter, one tall, the other petite, both attractive in a silicone fashion with platinum hair, baby doll dresses and stiletto heels.

MOTHER (OS)

Say hello to the little people.

DOTTIE

I'm Dottie.

DOLLY

And I'm Dolly.

Mother walks over to stand by her girls.

MOTHER

Who are you?

DOLLY & DOTTIE

We're the Knockout Sisters!

MOTHER

(Points at Big Man)

Remember what I told you.

INT. WRESTLING RING

The crowd roars as Tiger lands with a resounding THUD to the canvas floor. Dani, now Tarzana - Queen of the Jungle, grabs Tiger up by the hair and backs her into the ropes.

CLOSE UP - DANI AND TIGER

Dani presses Tiger back with her forearm.

DANI

(Whispering)

How are you holdin' up?

TIGER  
I'm splittin' a side here.

DANI  
Hang in there. Bombs away...

INT. WRESTLING RING

Tiger nods. Dani slings her across the ring. Tiger bounces off the ropes, flooring Dani with her shoulder. She pulls Dani to her feet, picks her up and powerbombs her to the mat.

CLOSE UP - DANI AND TIGER

As Dani lies prone, Tiger covers her for a pin.

DANI  
Watch my head...

TIGER  
I'm screwed... pulled something...

The referee kneels down for the count.

DANI  
We still got the hurricarana.

Tiger shakes her head. The ref pauses to look at Dani. He knows something is wrong. She nods. He finishes the count.

RING ANNOUNCER (OS)  
Your winner, in a time of twelve  
minutes, Bloody Mary!

INT. WRESTLING RING

The referee raises Tiger's hand. The crowd boos, launching a barrage of cups into the ring as the two women exit.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Angelessa and Netty are behind a curtain, separating the hall from the rest of the arena. Tiger enters to boos and thrown debris. She staggers by, heading to the locker room. Dani follows a moment later, shaking her head and blowing out her breath. Netty nods and pats her back.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Dressed in matching silk kimonos, the Knockout Sisters primp at the mirrors. Tiger slumps on a bench, a towel draped over her. Dani changes into a cowgirl outfit as Big Man paces.

BIG MAN

I got seven hundred hicks laughin' their asses off while you two... play patty cake.

DANI

Hey! I can't touch her ribs. She couldn't take a bump and when she goes down, she can't get up!

DOTTIE

(Stretching)

Money, money, money, money, money...

BIG MAN

A wrestler eats pain, Tiger.

TIGER

(Looking in her bag)

Where's that whiskey?

BIG MAN

(To Dottie)

What the Hell is that?

DOTTIE

It's my warm-up.

DANI

You got seven-hundred marks, huh?

BIG MAN

Six-hundred, six-fifty...

DOTTIE

See, life is a series of circles. One in the next, inside the next.

BIG MAN

Circles, uh-huh.

(To Tiger)

Got to get them marks hot! Get'em wild and riled. They not smokin', they get pissed. We need heat!

DOTTIE

Each one of us has a circle..

TIGER

I don't know, Big Man.

BIG MAN

Put'em on the edge. Keep'em there!  
(To Dottie)  
You got a circle. We got a circle.

DOTTIE

See, you got two choices - get  
enlightened or die.

BIG MAN

Sounds real good.  
(To Tiger)  
You go to back out, with Lessa an'  
turn it on or they're gonna' walk!

DOTTIE

Excuse me...

BIG MAN

What!?!

DOTTIE

I don't like your tone. Do you hear  
that tone in his voice, Dolly?

DOLLY

Yeah.

DOTTIE

A tone such as that can cause me to  
hyperventilate and I have to go home.

BIG MAN

Listen, I'm sorry...

DOTTIE

Sorry what?

BIG MAN

Sorry, Miss Crocker.

DOLLY

That's right, pig snot.

Nola comes in carrying a bottle in a paper bag.

NOLA

Shoot, I'm sorry. It's kinda' all  
closed up around here. I finally  
found an old guy in a doorway.

She pulls out a vodka bottle, half-full of brown liquid.

TIGER  
What the Hell is that?

NOLA  
Said the vodka needed flavor. So, he  
'flavored' it with sherry.

DANI  
That is one suspicious color.

Tiger takes the bottle from Nola.

TIGER  
Hell with it.

DOTTIE  
(Filing her nails)  
That is disgusting.

TIGER  
Yeah... that's vodka and sherry.

DANI  
Nas-ty.

DOLLY  
I do not work with drunks.

Tiger takes a long pull on the bottle, and then exhales hard.

TIGER  
Lady, I'm numb or I'm gone.

DOTTIE  
So, each one of us has a circle.  
(Draws in the air)  
A path. Call it fate, whatever.

DANI (OS)  
I call it bull.

Dottie stands and points at Dani.

DOTTIE  
I want this woman out of here!

BIG MAN  
For Christ sakes, Dani. Shut up.  
(To Dottie)  
Okay, a circle of fate.

NOLA

I had to give him the whole ten,  
cause bums can't make change.

DOTTIE

(Sitting)

An' Dolly an' me, see, we are in the  
circle of sex goddesses.

TIGER

Gotta' get dressed, doctor my dog.

Tiger works off her Bloody Mary outfit, and picks up an Indian  
squaw dress. Dottie snaps Big Man with her towel.

BIG MAN

Jesus!

DOTTIE

I'm just expressing myself.

BIG MAN

(Gritting his teeth)

Sex goddesses...

DOTTIE

Nefertiti, Marilyn Monroe, Madonna,  
and us! We gonna' get some good  
karma, give some good head, and get  
us ace parts in the slasher movies.  
You watch for it.

INT. WRESTLING RING

The referee is holding Netty's hand high, but she is  
concernedly watching Angelessa; who stands at the ropes and  
yells as she points into the crowd. The bell RINGS.

RING ANNOUNCER (OS)

And your winner in seventeen minutes,  
that Queen of Dreamland... Nightie  
Night Netty!

INT. LOCKER ROOM

BOOS can be heard from outside as Tiger nurses her vodka  
concoction. The Knockouts continue to primp.

DOTTIE

We carryin' forward the wisdom of our  
forbearers...

DANI  
And their implants, too. Mystical.

DOTTIE  
You must know and embody your circle.  
Ka Ras Ma said that.

DANI  
Never met him.

From outside, there is the sound of the crowd STAMPING their feet. Plaster dust snows down from the ceiling.

BIG MAN  
What the Hell them girls doin'?

DOLLY  
This don't look right.

Gazing at her reflection, Dolly slaps herself.

DOTTIE  
Money, money, money, money, money..

DANI  
Shut up.

DOTTIE  
(Holds up her leg)  
Lace my boot.

DANI  
You've got granola for brains, bitch.

BIG MAN  
Don't screw around. Lace it up.

DANI  
You lace it up.

Big Man glares at her. Dani sighs and laces up the shoe.

DOTTIE  
Some of us are desire, some of us  
serve desire.

DANI  
Some have our heads up so far up our  
ass, we can see our tonsils.

As she ties the laces, Big Man kicks Dani in the butt.

BIG MAN  
You understand what I'm sayin'? You  
need your mouth washed out.

DANI  
I'll think it over.

She pauses, then returns a kick to his butt. He whirls around.

DANI  
I thought it over.

TIGER  
Go easy on her.

Lessa explodes into the room. She is HOT. Netty follows.

ANGELESSA  
They got some guy out there shootin'  
or throwin' crap at me!

FLASHBACK - RINGSIDE

Angelessa and Netty are tangling in the ring. A member of the crowd pulls out a drinking straw and some metal pellets. He slips one in his mouth, spits and it hits Lessa in the butt.

ANGELESSA (VO)  
Hit me with a rock or ball-bearing...  
low-down scum-sucker.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Big Man turns to Dani and Tiger.

BIG MAN  
See what you started out there?!?

ANGELESSA  
Coulda' put my eye out.

BIG MAN  
And?

FLASHBACK - WRESTLING RING

Another pellet catches Lessa in the thigh. Enraged, she drops her chokehold on Netty and dives out through the ropes.

ANGELESSA (VO)  
And I went after him.

BIG MAN (VO)  
You went into the crowd?

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Angelessa paces.

ANGELESSA  
I'm tellin' you I went after him so  
nobody else has to, an' I'll do it  
again I see him near that ring..

BIG MAN  
I got one rule. Don't go into the  
crowd without security. Especially,  
if you're the heel! No matter what!

NETTY  
Got a bunch of animals out there.

BIG MAN  
Stay in the ring!

ANGELESSA  
Grabbed me... Groped me...

Suddenly, there's a GUNSHOT. Everyone freezes. Dolly is seated  
at the dressing table, pointing a 9mm pistol at the ceiling.

DOLLY  
Y'all makin' a lot of noise. I like  
it real quiet when I put on lipstick.

DOTTIE  
You can smear lipstick.

DOLLY  
Ordinarily, we got a room of our own,  
but if we got to be in the barnyard,  
then I guess we got to make it clear  
who's the head hog.

DOTTIE  
See beauty is serene. Could somebody  
go and get me a little plain water in  
this cup?

Nola runs up and takes the cup, glancing at the gun.

NOLA  
I'll get it.

DOTTIE  
Aren't you so sweet.

                  NOLA  
Where's your big spider?

                  DOTTIE  
I set it free.

                  ANGELESSA  
                  (Pointing at Dolly)  
You puttin' up with this, Big Man?

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Nola fills the cup at a fountain as Vernon and CURTIS, another wrestler in an orange prison jumpsuit, exit the men's room. Curtis stops at the curtain. Vernon, now in a flannel shirt, jeans, and work boots, hangs back by Nola.

                  RING ANNOUNCER (OS)  
Ladies and gentlemen, coming to the  
ring... That sinister psycho from Cell  
Block 9... Death Row Joe!

Curtis bursts through the curtain with a roar of the crowd.

                  VERNON  
                  (Looks down and nods)  
How're you doin'?

                  NOLA  
I'm fine. You Lumber Jack?

                  VERNON  
                  (Grins)  
Yeah. Friends call me Vernon.

                  NOLA  
                  (Smiling back)  
Vernon... cool. Nola.

                  RING ANNOUNCER (OS)  
...his opponent from the ta-a-ll  
timbers of Or-e-gon. Lumber Jack!

Vernon gives her a wave, and exits into the arena. A moment later, Mother storms out from the arena and down the hall.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Mother blows in as Angelessa is pulling out a red, white and blue one-piece, part of her "Olympia" costume.

MOTHER

We got dissatisfied patrons, dammit!

INT. WRESTLING RING - NIGHT

After a dropkick has Vernon 'dazed', Curtis ascends the turnbuckle to launch himself. A crowd member runs up and shakes the ropes. He's pulled away by security, but Curtis topples, landing crotch first on the turnbuckle.

MOTHER (OS)

What we got here is piss poor no control. Got nut-bustin' males in the room, you got to dominate them.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Mother blusters about while Angelessa still stews.

ANGELESSA

Nobody, noooobody shoots crap at me when I'm workin'.

MOTHER

(To Big Man)

One rule. Keep the dogs leashed.

Nola returns with the water cup. She holds it out for Dottie.

BIG MAN

What I'm gonna' do is...

MOTHER

...toss them some raw meat. Who's up?

ANGELESSA

(Muttering)

Nobody...

BIG MAN

Tiger goin' on Lessa' as Olympia.

MOTHER

Well, that's real smart.

BIG MAN

I believe so.

Mother slaps him.

MOTHER

That oughta' set off a riot. Get us  
all killed!

TIGER

Hey, we've done this before you know!

After being ignored, Nola leaves the cup on the table.

BIG MAN

They ain't gonna'...

MOTHER

Think this is Dayton or St. Louis?  
You probably got Klan out there or  
freakin' skinhead Nazis, all-purpose  
defectives... you got you a nice mix.

ANGELESSA

You got you a nice mix all right.

MOTHER

What's your name, honey?

ANGELESSA

What's your name?

MOTHER

My name is Sara Mae Louellen Crocker,  
originally of the Crocker auto repair  
Crocker's before I saw sports  
entertainment as the growth industry  
of the new millennium.

ANGELESSA

Angelessa.

MOTHER

You wanta' get hurt, Angelessa?

ANGELESSA

I've wrestled in fifteen states.

MOTHER

Well, you can either bleach yourself  
white or buy some permanent rest here  
in Cementville.

MOTHER (CONT)

These people pay good money to see people they don't like get beat up by people they do like in that ring out there.

(Counting on her fingers)

They don't like smart people, don't like rich people, don't like A-rabs, don't like Jews, and they don't like you. So, they come here to drink beer and yell at you an' everybody goes home happy. Sports entertainment. Well, you broke the big rule an' went into the crowd. You went an' got real on 'em and now you're screwed.

(She holds out a few bills)

Go back to your RV, put on some skin cream and read a magazine. Let me get this straightened out.

Angelessa takes the bills, then tosses her outfit back into the bag. Big Man steps up, rubbing his hands.

BIG MAN

Okay, let's get us a match.

MOTHER

Shut up.

BIG MAN

Shut up?

MOTHER

This crowd won't sit through much more. They want my girls!

Dolly stands up from behind her mirror.

DOLLY

Eye shadow, Mama?

MOTHER (OS)

Needs more.

DOLLY

I keep getting it wrong!

BIG MAN

You tellin' me to shut up? This is my freakin' tour. Now...

MOTHER

Send'em out topless!

BIG MAN  
(Appalled)  
Do what!?!

MOTHER  
Topless. That'll put the marks' minds  
in their pants!

BIG MAN  
I can't send my girls out naked!

MOTHER  
Why not?

BIG MAN  
This is America, that's why not!

Mother grabs up the Knockout's bags. Big Man pursues her.

MOTHER  
Pack it up. We're gone.

BIG MAN  
We got a verbal contract!

MOTHER  
Dream on, sucker.

BIG MAN  
Those hicks will go nuts.

DOTTIE  
(Walking past)  
You got her upset now.

BIG MAN  
Five minutes...

DOLLY  
You think we need this? We did a  
freakin' hairspray commercial.

DANI  
You got any balls, Big Man?

BIG MAN  
One lousy minute!

DOTTIE  
You couldn't peddle this act to a dog  
show.

TIGER  
Watch it!

Tiger stands, pointing at Dolly. Big Man grabs Dolly's purse.

BIG MAN  
Okay, ladies... let's see...  
(Dumping the contents)  
...what we got here.

DOLLY  
Hey, you dumped my personal items,  
dickwad!

BIG MAN  
Oh, yes...

He pulls out a small packet. Dolly tries to snatch it back,  
but Big Man pulls it out of her reach.

BIG MAN  
Seems to be... Uh-huh. Seems to be a  
white powder in a tiny ziplock bag.

MOTHER  
Big Man...

BIG MAN  
Might be an... illegal substance? Be a  
real no-no seein' you're just one day  
outta' the joint.

MOTHER  
...you got both feet in your mouth... and  
you're getting Dolly excited.

Narrowing her eyes, Dolly slams the trunk lid closed. Smiling,  
Big Man struts in front of Mother and holds up the bag.

BIG MAN  
Let's just see who's the head hog!

DOTTIE  
What you are holdin' is a memento.

BIG MAN  
What I'm holdin', chickie, is a trip  
back inside. You girls ever seen this  
before?

Dolly whips out her pistol.

TIGER  
Watch out!

Dolly steps up and plants it against Big Man's nose.

DOLLY  
You ever seen this before?

Angelessa blurts out a laugh.

BIG MAN  
You find this funny?

ANGELESSA  
Uh-huh.

DOLLY  
Let's see you eat it.

MOTHER  
Dolly, you are so unstable, honey.

DOLLY  
Eat it!

NOLA  
(Meekly raises her hand)  
I could get us some sodas.

DOLLY  
(Cocking the pistol)  
I been in a snuff film, pig snot.  
One... two...

Big Man tosses down the powder. He immediately gags.

BIG MAN  
Choke... chok...

DANI  
Spit it out!

Dolly goes back, seats herself at the makeup table and puts the gun down. The sisters return to their primping as Dani and Nola pound on Big Man's back.

BIG MAN  
S... Sa... Sa... Sand!

NETTY (OS)  
Say what, honey?

BIG MAN  
That was sand. What the Hell you  
carryin' sand in a little bag?

Dani turns away, shaking her head in disbelief.

DOTTIE  
May I share with him, Dolly?

                  DOLLY  
You may share with him.

                  BIG MAN  
                  (To Nola)  
Get me some water!

                  DOTTIE  
About eight years ago. I was at  
Daytona Beach with Earl, Dolly's  
husband. The sky was a pure blue...

                  BIG MAN  
We need wrestlers out there, for  
Christ's sake! What are we doin'?

REVERSE

As Nola runs out, MISS HARMON, a young girl in an old-style  
usherette's uniform, appears in the doorway. A line of blood  
runs down her face from a nasty gash on her forehead.

                  MISS HARMON  
Mr. Vague? Mr. Vague, please?

                  BIG MAN  
What now? Holy Jesus!

                  MISS HARMON  
Mr. Vague?

                  BIG MAN  
It's Vag.

                  NETTY  
You're bleedin', honey.

Miss Harmon nods.

                  DOTTIE  
Ooooo, I hate seein' blood.

Big Man gets to his feet and approaches her.

                  MISS HARMON  
Mr. Vag, Mr. McClendon, the referee,  
sent me here to say...

She takes out a note and reads aloud.

MISS HARMON

We "better get him some wrassler's pretty pronto" because that crowd... it's ugly, sir. It is. That's the message. So, perhaps I could... bring him your perspective.

BIG MAN

Goddammit, I'm just trying to make a living!

MISS HARMON

(Jotting down his words)  
...make a living.

BIG MAN (CONT'D)

I got my brother in the hospital with his Johnson lopped off...

MISS HARMON

...lopped off.

BIG MAN (CONT'D)

I got the Knockout Sisters from Juggs feedin' me sand and the Godmother over here tellin' me to send my stable out naked... and I got tanked up hicks trashin' uninsured property I'm gonna' be responsible for. Now, you tell me what the Hell to do!

MISS HARMON

Juggs... Well, I'm not sure, sir. But they're throwin' chairs.

Mother steps in. She wipes the girl's head with a hanky.

MOTHER

You tell him that there is wrestlers comin'. Go on, now. Go on.

MISS HARMON

Yes, ma'am. I will. Ya'll have a nice night, ya' hear?

She exits. Not missing a beat, Dottie continues her story.

DOTTIE

An' I looked at Earl split by the horizon, with his history of impotent issues, and I said, "Earl, I am Dolly and Dolly is me, we are the circle, we are the Earth for you."

DOTTIE (CONT)

An' I lay down on the dusky beach and took him inside me. He cried, "Dolly. Dolly, I'm home!" Then, he had a heart attack and died.

DOLLY

Pretty much the way it went.

DOTTIE

So, I took some sand from under his head and took it home to Dolly as a memento. And you ate it.

DOLLY

You hurt my heart.

TIGER

(Exhales hard)

Gotta' couple of live ones, Big Man.

BIG MAN

I'm in charge here.

MOTHER

You want to know what to do?

BIG MAN

No!

(Paces)

Okay, maybe.

Nola comes running back in, carrying a cup.

NOLA

I got your water!

BIG MAN

(Slapping it away)

I didn't want any water!

MOTHER

Get the Indian... and the cowgirl...  
...out there in their underwear.

BIG MAN

Yeah, I said that. I said underwear...  
Lingerie!

MOTHER

We still got those garters?

DOTTIE  
                  (Digs into her bag)  
Oh, I'm just the little pack rat.

                  MOTHER  
We announce a special match... what did  
we call it that one time?

                  DOLLY  
Bra Wars.

                  DANI  
Forget it.

                  DOLLY  
You the Virgin Mary?

                  DANI  
I screw, I don't tease.

                  MOTHER  
Fifty more?

                  DANI  
You can't find a whore for fifty.

                  MOTHER  
                  (Holds up a folded bill)  
A hundred?

Angelessa reaches out for it, but Dani snatches it first.

                  DOLLY  
I guess you can't find a good whore  
for a hundred.

Dolly hands Dani the lingerie. Dani tucks the bill under her  
bra strap.

                  DANI  
You don't know what a whore is, babe.  
You livin' in Blonde World. Rather  
be a hundred-dollar whore, than a  
thousand-dollar blank.

                  BIG MAN  
Tiger?

                  TIGER  
You saw that match. I'm leanin' on  
this locker 'cause I can't get up.

                  BIG MAN  
Netty?

MOTHER

Those boys aren't lookin' for no old  
and fat people in a g-string.

NOLA (OS)

I can wrestle.

They all turn to Nola.

MOTHER

Yeah? How old are you?

NOLA

Nineteen.

MOTHER

Where have you worked?

NOLA

Whale Gas and Paperboard Products.

MOTHER

Wrestled, honey...

NOLA

Nowhere. But, I seen every bout for  
four counties since I was twelve. I  
practice with Jadine.

BIG MAN

Jadine who?

NOLA

My cousin. She's one-ninety. I can  
beat her in straight wrestlin', but  
we been learnin' pro stuff. She's  
does some a' that backyard 'rasslin'  
with a buncha' boys over in Utley...

MOTHER

Okay, okay... You're in the ring...

NOLA

Yeah...

MOTHER

She takes you down with the flyin'  
headscissors... What do you do?

NOLA

Kick out... grab her in a fireman's  
carry... give her an airplane... then  
drill her with the Samoan drop.

MOTHER  
(Holding up two bills)  
Thirty bucks.

NOLA  
I'm in? I'm in the bouts?

Netty puts an arm around Nola's shoulder.

NETTY  
You really wanta' do this, honey?

NOLA  
I wanna' wrassle. Wrassle my ass off.  
It's all I ever wanted to do.

ANGELESSA  
Your Mama oughta' whip your ass.

NOLA  
She already whips my ass. She whips  
my ass with a coat hanger an' tells  
me I ain't nothin' but trash like my  
Daddy. Guess I showed her, huh?

Big Man pulls her away from Netty.

BIG MAN  
You do good out there, and I might  
have a spot for you on the tour.

NOLA  
(Dreamy)  
The tour?

BIG MAN  
Come by the big RV after the show.

NOLA  
I'll be there.  
(Leaping in the air)  
I am so in! Yes!!  
(She suddenly stops)  
Ring name... What's my ring name?

Mother looks at her a moment as Dani exits in a huff.

MOTHER  
Frenchy. Frenchy... La Femme.

NOLA  
All right... European... classy..

Dottie hands her a fistful of crumpled lingerie.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Dani knocks on the men's room door. Vernon answers, sipping on a soda. He's already changed into his El Supremo costume.

VERNON

Yeah? Oh hey there, sweet thing.

DANI

Vern, I need a favor. You an' Curtis are going to have escorts in your next match. Me and the new kid are gonna' play up a catfight.

VERNON

Cool... Whatever you need.

DANI

I'll be with Curtis, the kid'll be with you. What's your big spot?

VERNON

He was going to do a ropewalk...

He swings back the door. In an open stall, Curtis sits on a toilet, moaning and packing ice on his groin. Vernon sighs.

VERNON (CONT'D)

But, we're goin' with the bulldog.

DANI

Won't matter then... Sometime in, I'll interfere. Me and the kid scrap and security hauls us out. Okay?

VERNON

Right on. Let's go Curtis.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Nola is holding the negligee in front of herself as Dani runs in and grabs her cowgirl hat and Tiger's jacket.

DANI

Nola! Let's go.

Nola looks up. She drops the lingerie and follows Dani out.

BIG MAN

Where you two goin'?

DANI

I'm gonna' start your 'Bra Wars'.

INT. RINGSIDE - NIGHT

On the canvas, Vernon (El Magnifico Supremo) bodyslams Curtis (The Cobra), then elbow drops him. Dani and Nola, now wearing Tiger's jacket, cheer them on from ringside. Curtis stumbles to his feet as Vernon backs into a corner. Dani runs up and trips him. The crowd boos as Curtis leg drops on Vernon. Nola dashes over and grabs Dani by the hair. In a flash, security pulls them apart. The crowd whoops as they're hauled away.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Nola and Dani rush in, giggling as they quickly change into the unmentionables. Tiger holds up her bottle to Nola.

TIGER

Have a hit.

Nola does, makes a face, and continues to undress.

MOTHER

Let's get back out there... Now, for the main event.

BIG MAN

Yes, ma'am. What we're gonna' do...

MOTHER

Shut up. You tried to leverage me, now you're warm piss. You wanta' wake up next to a horse's head?

DOLLY

That was a good movie.

(Narrowing her eyes)

I could be in that movie.

MOTHER

I want those same two in the main.

ANGELESSA

Wait a minute...

DANI

(Flips her off)

Hey, Lessa.

NETTY

Frenchy'll be tired, an' she's green.

REVERSE - LOCKER ROOM DOORWAY

Miss Harmon returns. But now, BOBBIE JACK "ONE-EYE" DENEAUVE, a thin man with a haunted face, has her by the hair. His left eye sports an eye patch that matches his suit.

MISS HARMON

Mr. Vag? A gentleman to see you.

ONE-EYE

How ya'll doin'?

BIG MAN

Take your hands off my staff.

ONE-EYE

Name's Bobbie Jack Deneauve...

(Pops out a switchblade)

...come down from Letcher County  
Kentucky ta' see the wrasslin'.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Mother steps in.

MOTHER

Hello, Mr. Deneauve...

ONE-EYE

Friends call me One-Eye. Now, I drove  
me a distance to see some gut-  
pumpin', butt-bumpin' airborne  
titties in a family-type show...

(Twirls the knife)

See I hump two-hundred pound cartons  
all week, so I'm seekin' me a action  
attraction. Up til now I got squat.

MOTHER

I'm Mother Crocker, you probably seen  
me on TV. Seems like you got some  
sweet child by the hair.

ONE-EYE

Could be. Now, we don't get us some  
tits an' see us some body fluids on  
the mat pretty quick, we gonna' have  
to come back here... cut out your  
pumpin' heart an' eat that sumbitch  
up like a nacho.

CLOSE UP - MOTHER AND ONE-EYE

Mother gets right in his face. She's quiet, but direct.

MOTHER

One-eye, we got some fine tits  
comin', an' y'all aren't a hunnert  
percent satisfied, you can have any  
woman in this room in a heart-shaped  
bed, all expenses paid, no questions  
asked. But, you cut this little girl,  
you be a dead man.

ONE-EYE

You a fine woman, Mama.  
(Releases the girl)  
I'll check on back.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

One-Eye winks, clicks his tongue and then disappears.

MISS HARMON

(Still shaking)

I could've handled the situation. I  
got two weeks of personnel training.

MOTHER

You want to stay down here?

A radio on Miss Harmon's hip buzzes.

MISS HARMON

They need me in Section B...

She takes a deep breath and heads back out.

DOTTIE

I am so not screwin' that man.

ANGELESSA

Let me do the main. I got know-how  
and experience. I can handle your  
girls like they was marked fragile.  
I'm not goin' into the crowd again.  
I'll... I'll even apologize. I'm a  
professional, that's all I am. I can  
put your girls over, make'em look  
good. If I have to, I can take a full  
face punch. I'm askin' for the fight.

MOTHER

Lessa, is it? If you're in tennis,  
you're a professional athlete.

ANGELESSA

Yeah?

MOTHER

If you're in track and field, you're  
a professional athlete. But in sports  
entertainment, in the main event that  
they pay for, you're nothing in this  
world...

DOTTIE

But a nigger.

Lessa charges, but Big Man shoves her into the lockers.

NETTY

Lessa! Go easy, now.

Lessa steadies herself, slowly blowing out her breath.

ANGELESSA

I'm cool...

MOTHER

Get these girls out there.

BIG MAN

Frenchy, Dani you're up.

Big Man points to the door. Dani and Nola walk past him.

DANI

Now, this is a catfight. So, don't  
worry 'bout technique. We pull hair,  
slap, roll around... work the crowd.  
When I say, you'll pull off my top,  
I'll put you away and we're gone.

NOLA

Okay... just lead me.

Dani nods. Nola turns to Tiger, who's just hanging on.

NOLA

Thanks.

TIGER

Don't mention it.

Dani and Nola exit. Mother hands Big Man a photocopy.

MOTHER  
She's got tits, how bad can it be?  
(To Big Man)  
When they come off, give'em this.  
Runs down how to handle my girls.

He takes two steps to leave.

MOTHER (CONT'D)  
Dottie stays on her feet. I got those  
legs are insured for thirty thou.

DOTTIE  
You said fifty.

MOTHER  
Nothing in the face. It stays in the  
ring. Crowd gets ugly, they split.

He nods and exits.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

As Dani and Nola wait, Curtis comes through the curtain. He  
rips off his mask as he limps past. A moment later, Vernon  
emerges. He looks down at Nola as he takes off his mask.

VERNON  
You workin', Nola?

NOLA  
It's Frenchy now. My big debut...

VERNON  
(Nodding)  
Right on. You ready?

NOLA  
Don't know anymore...

VERNON  
You'll do jus' fine...  
(Puts a hand on her shoulder)  
Now, listen here. This business takes  
a lot out of you; maybe more than it  
gives back. But, you only work a few  
hours a week, you travel and meet a  
lot of nice folks. So as long as you  
stay safe and can heal up...

NOLA  
You wanna' be famous, Vernon?

VERNON

Well, who don't? I may not make the big time. But in front of them folks, out there, I'm famous enough.

He turns her to face Dani.

RING ANNOUNCER (VO)

Ladies and gentlemen, a special match up has just been added..

VERNON

Now, that gal over there will take good care of you. You just listen.

Nola nods. Vernon ruffles her hair and moves on.

RING ANNOUNCER (VO)

To settle the altercation from our last match, we have a special lingerie catfight... First, from the Lone Star State, she is... Texas Gold!

Dani turns to Nola, giving her an assuring nod as she enters the arena. The crowd cheers and catcalls.

RING ANNOUNCER (VO) (CONT'D)

Her opponent, Marseille's mistress of the mats! Frenchy La Femme!

For a moment, there is a lull in the crowd noise. Nola takes in her breath and walks through the curtain.

INT. RINGSIDE - NIGHT / NOLA'S POV

The clamor drones in her ears, as Nola takes the long walk to the ring. Dani is already in her corner, playing to the crowd and yelling. People reach out to touch Nola or shake her hand.

INT. WRESTLING RING - NIGHT

Nola climbs past the ropes and takes an opposite corner. Dani breaks her game face, jerking her head at the crowd. Nola nods. She removes the lace cover-all and climbs onto the ropes, raises her arms at the cheering crowd.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Mother pulls out a pair of little U.S. flags as Dolly and Dottie remove the kimonos. They're wearing sequined one-pieces in a gaudy stars-and-stripes pattern with matching boots.

MOTHER  
(Checking them over)  
Turn around.

DOTTIE  
Do we look like queens, Mama? Are we  
sweet as pie?

MOTHER  
I could eat you for breakfast you  
look so good.

DOTTIE  
You look good too, Mama. You're part  
of the circle.

INT. WRESTLING RING - NIGHT

The girls come to grips as Dani wraps Nola in a headlock.

DANI  
Back up. Shove me off. Comin' back  
with a flyin' press. Catch me.

Nola slings Dani across the ring. She bounces off and launches  
herself at Nola. The two fall back to the mat.

MOTHER (VO)  
Stay away from the young one. She's  
new and don't know nothing. Stay off  
them ropes, I don't want you marked.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Mother walks the sisters to the door. Outside, the hall echoes  
with the roar of the crowd.

DOLLY  
No problem.

DOTTIE  
Yes, Mama.

MOTHER  
(Hands them the flags)  
Smile to the crowd, they fans. And  
wave these little flags.

DOLLY AND DOTTIE  
Yes, Mama.

MOTHER

You are sports entertainment stars.  
We jus' had a lil' setback. Usin'  
drugs was a bad, bad thing. But, it's  
part of the career.

DOLLY

Yes, Mama.

MOTHER

Now, go on out there...

DOTTIE

You didn't say we was goddesses.

MOTHER

You're freakin' goddesses. Go.

DOTTIE

You sweet ol' thing.

(Hugs Mother)

Bye, y'all. Keep evolving now.

Dottie blows a kiss as they exit. Mother turns to the others.

MOTHER

Let me give you a little personal  
advice. Get yourself a husband and a  
nine-to-five job. You don't have it,  
never will. No future on TV.

As Mother leaves, Netty checks on Tiger, lying on a bench.

NETTY

You look bad. Want some morphine?

TIGER

You got?

NETTY

I got. We have our little ways.

She reaches into her bag and pulls out a commercial vial.

TIGER

You always a surprise, ain't ya?

NETTY

Girl's gotta' live, honey.

TIGER

Hard as that may be. Syringe?

Netty hands her one in a plastic package and the vial. Tiger preps the needle as Netty plops back in her seat.

TIGER  
Make my day.

NETTY  
Cementville... I'm getting too old an'  
fat for sports entertainment.

TIGER  
(Injecting herself)  
An' I'm too far out there.

NETTY  
What about you, Lessa?

Lessa gets off the bench and grabs her duffle. Tiger slips out of her Indian costume and back into her street clothes.

NETTY  
Y'all wanna' catch a beer?

ANGELESSA  
(Gathering her things)  
I'm catchin' the bus.

TIGER  
Hell, Lessa. Cool off.

ANGELESSA  
I'm way past cooled off.

NETTY  
Where you goin'?

ANGELESSA  
Wherever thirty dollars takes me.

NETTY  
Probably Memphis. Shoot we're all  
goin' to Memphis. Ride with us.

ANGELESSA  
Don't think so.

CLOSE UP - KID CAYMAN

WILLIE CAYMAN, an elderly black man with cane in hand stands quietly in the hall, looking in.

CAYMAN  
Evenin' ladies...

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

In the middle of getting undressed, Netty jumps back.

NETTY

Good Lord!

CAYMAN

Didn't mean to make you jump.  
(Removes his hat)  
Payin' my respects.

ANGELESSA

What do you need?

CAYMAN

Don't have much, don't need much.

TIGER (OS)

This is the dressing room, Granpa.

CAYMAN

(Pointing to an old poster)  
Willie "The Kid" Cayman. See?

NETTY

This is you?

CAYMAN

(Does a little shuffle)  
Light on my feet, lookin' real sweet  
and TNT in both hands.

NETTY

Honey, you got million-dollar charm.

CAYMAN

Much obliged. Could I bother you  
ladies to step in? On my way from Key  
West to Catafalque Bay, Alaska in my  
ninety-seven cadmium red Firebird.  
Stoppin' here, stoppin' there...

NETTY

Come on in, darlin'.

CAYMAN

(Holds out his hand)  
Call me Kid. Kid Cayman.

TIGER

(Shakes Kid's hand)  
Tiger.

CAYMAN

Tiger who?

TIGER

Just Tiger.

INT. WRESTLING RING - NIGHT

Nola wrings Dani in a waist scissors, pulling her hair. The crowd is on their feet as Nola rolls her over for a pin. Suddenly, Dani kicks out and they both struggle to their feet. Dani shoves Nola back into the corner. They're both winded.

DANI

It's time. You take a side slam?

NOLA

Yeah... no sweat. Just plant me.

Nola grabs Dani's top and rips it free. The crowd GASPS as Dani staggers back, covering herself. Nola clasps Dani in a chokehold, but Dani grabs Nola, lifts her and drops with her to the mat. In a flash, the ref counts as Dani pins her.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Kid meanders around the room, glancing at fight posters and touching the old rack of lockers. Outside the crowd ROARS.

RING ANNOUNCER (OS)

...your winner of our lingerie  
catfight: lusty, busty Texas Gold!

CAYMAN

(Seeing the pet carrier)  
I got me a little yellow dog.  
(Passes by Lessa)  
Seems to me, I know you, sister.

ANGELESSA

Don't think so. You a fan?

CAYMAN

It'll come to me. I got a mile-long  
memory. You in the wrestlin'?

NETTY (OS)

That's right, honey.

CAYMAN

Had me a hundred and seventy fights,  
featherweight to middleweight, but I  
still got my brains 'cuz they  
couldn't hit me. I kinda' here,  
kinda' there. What you'd call Will-o-  
the-wisp.

(Turns back to Lessa)

You're granddaddy weren't Sugar Ray?

She shakes her head. He continues his tour.

CAYMAN (CONT)

Fought here two times. Once with  
Jose' Higuera, an old vet with a good  
left hand. Carried him eight rounds  
so he could have another payday. Once  
with Sandy Sadler, dirtiest fighter  
alive. He thumb me so bad, took  
forty-six stitches 'round my left  
eye. It's in the book. Fought Sandy  
three times.

(Back to Lessa)

Ever won a beauty contest?

ANGELESSA

Kid, I never won a beauty contest.

CAYMAN

Well, the fix was in.

ANGELESSA

(Smiling)

You ought to move on soon, Kid.

CAYMAN

Oh, I plan to. Got to keep movin'.  
My... my. Oh, ladies... memory lane.

Suddenly, Dani and Nola enter like whirlwinds. Wearing the  
sister's kimonos, they blur by and begin changing costumes.

NOLA

Hot damn, was that somethin'?

DANI

Them folks were into it all right.

NOLA

Throwin' money!

DANI

Bills... singles... fives...

Nola pulls cash from under her garter and waistband, even shaking coins out of her nylons. Tiger plops onto the bench.

NOLA

An' change. I didn't have a place to tuck it all.

Netty holds out their new costumes (Dragon Ninja Girls) as Dani walks over, she passes by Kid Cayman.

DANI

Who's he?

CAYMAN

Bon jour. How you doin'?

TIGER

Used to fight here.

Dani hands the cash to Netty as Nola struggles with her top.

DANI

Pop... you have my sympathies.  
(To Netty)  
Split it up.

NOLA

Is this on straight?

NETTY

Come over here, honey.

DANI

Tiger? How you doin'?

TIGER

(Shit-eating grin)  
Feelin' no pain.

DANI

You see this crap?  
(Holds Mother's note)  
The Dolly and Dottie Show. They parade around, we fall down. They writhe on the floor, we're amazed. Then, Va-Va-Voom, we collapse.  
(Tosses the note away)  
Freakin' stupid. Well, I guess you got to play it like it lays.

ANGELESSA

Get goin'.

DANI

Gone.

NOLA

(Still struggling)

Comin'...

ANGELESSA

Let me help you.

DANI

Catch you outside.

Dani heads out. Angelessa moves Netty aside to help Nola.

RING ANNOUNCER (OS)

And now our featured bout of the evening. Introducing those fabulous femme fatales of American wrestling... The world-famous Knockout Sisters!

MEDIUM SHOT - BROOM CLOSET

Angelessa grabs the karate Gi top as Nola wriggles in it.

NOLA

I just hope I can do this.

ANGELESSA

You'll be fine. Turn around...

As Nola does, Angelessa shoves her into the closet. She rips off the Gi shirt and slams the door. Tiger snorts out a laugh.

NOLA (OS)

\*Filtered through the door.

Hey!! What the Hell?

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Angelessa quickly puts on Nola's costume, including gloves.

NETTY

Now, Lessa...

ANGELESSA

The little bitch that called me a nigger is mine!

NETTY

Don't be crazy now.

As Lessa hits the door, two large hands reach out and clasp her throat! It's EDDIE VAG, looking like Frankenstein's monster, in a bloodied hospital robe. A detached IV dangles from his taped wrist. His eyes are large and glazed.

EDDIE  
(Gurgling)  
You... bit... my... dick... off.

Eddie slams her against the wall with inhuman strength.

NETTY  
Eddie! Oh, my God. Eddie!

Angelessa struggles, but he is far too strong.

EDDIE  
Bit... my... dick... off... My... dick!!

TIGER  
Get him off her. He'll kill her!

CAYMAN (OS)  
Stosha!! "Wild Man" Oronovsky!!

Hearing his name, Eddie drops Lessa and turns. Kid smiles.

CAYMAN  
Stosha Oronovsky! You the cream in my coffee, man. Give me some...

Kid holds his hand out, Eddie slaps it and they do an eight beat handshake. Suddenly, Kid nails Eddie in the groin with his knee and Eddie moans inhumanly.

CAYMAN (CONT'D)  
You slick as a snake on ice.

Eddie crashes to the floor, on top of Tiger's pet carrier. Only Netty sees it, as Tiger and Kid are helping Lessa up.

NETTY  
Oh, God!

TIGER  
You okay, Lessa?

ANGELESSA  
I'm fine. Get off me.

CAYMAN  
You put the shot in Athens?

ANGELESSA

In Athens, Greece. Yes, sir.

RING ANNOUNCER (OS)

...their opponents, from Osaka, Japan,  
the Dragon Ninja Girls!

CAYMAN

Ooo, you were fine. Now, go on out  
there and have a good time. I like to  
see people enjoying themselves.

Lessa nods. She grabs up the ninja mask and heads out.

TIGER

How'd you know his name?

CAYMAN

On the poster. Got me a memory. I can  
point out the same fly a week later.

TIGER

You think he's hurt bad?

CAYMAN

(Grinning)

Might be, if she bit his dick off.

Netty moves to Eddie's side and rolls him off the carrier.

NETTY

Tiger, honey. I got some bad news. He  
fell on your dog.

TIGER

Where?

NETTY

Kinda' flush, right on her. Darlin',  
I'm afraid she's gone.

TIGER

Gone?

Netty nods. Tiger sits back, tears well up. Nola pounds on the  
closet door.

NOLA (OS)

Let me outta' here!

TIGER

Whoa, getting' woozy...

Tiger starts to fade, but Kid helps her to sit.

CAYMAN  
No last name, huh?

TIGER  
Nope.

INT. WRESTLING RING - NIGHT

Dolly and Dottie stand in their corner, waving like debutantes as Dani plays bad girl to the crowd. Angelessa is motionless. The bell RINGS. Angelessa indicates she wants to start.

DANI  
Sure thing, kid. Jus' sell it up when she throws you around.

Dolly moves in, but Angelessa bulldozes right over her to the corner and slamming Dottie with a forearm. The blow sends Dottie to the floor. The crowd boos as Angelessa turns back to Dolly; grabs her, slams her, and then tosses her out, too.

INT. RINGSIDE - NIGHT

Mother is helping the injured Dottie to her feet.

MOTHER  
What th' Hell is that girl doin'?

Angelessa vaults the ropes and jumps down to the floor. She shoves Mother aside and tosses Dottie into the ring.

INT. WRESTLING RING - NIGHT

Dottie backs away, but Lessa grabs hold of her hair and lays a punch into Dottie's face. Then, another and another.

DANI  
What are you doin'!?!

The referee tries to break it up, but Lessa kicks him away.

MOTHER (OS)  
Get that bitch off my property!

Dani rips off her mask, jumps in and grabs Lessa from behind. As they struggle, Angelessa's mask falls off.

DANI  
Have you gone plum loco, girl?

ANGELESSA  
Off me! This is my fight!

DANI  
Lessa?

Angelessa tosses Dani off and sends her and Dottie to the floor, before diving out of the ring after Mother. The crowd is screaming for blood; Angelessa's blood.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Tiger slumps on the floor next to a bench. Kid tends to her.

CAYMAN  
You know what I see in your eyes?  
Morphine. Morphine, am I right?

TIGER  
Yeah...

CAYMAN  
That's a sweet low, isn't it? I had  
me a few months of that in Calcutta.  
I'd cry and cry... sleep like a baby.

TIGER  
We're all screwed.

NETTY (OS)  
We are.

CAYMAN  
Not me. Got me Florida real estate.

TIGER  
Yeah? Well, it's time to move out.

Tiger groggily stands and starts packing. Outside, they can hear the crowd YELLING louder. Chaos reigns in the arena.

NETTY  
You got no place to go.

TIGER  
I'm goin' where them hicks ain't.  
Screw this place.  
(Steps over Eddie)  
Don't look like Eddie's gonna' be  
working in Memphis.

REVERSE

A SCREAM. Dottie bursts in, holding her hand over her face. Blood is streaming down her sequins. Netty rushes to her.

DOTTIE  
My face! Oh God, my face! My eye!!

NETTY  
Jeezus!

DOTTIE  
I'm ruint!  
(Looking in the mirror)  
Ruint' in the race wars! I cain't  
see! I cain't see!

NETTY  
Let me. Sit still.

DOTTIE  
I got to be in the movies!

NETTY  
Where's Dolly?

DOTTIE  
Went under. Some thyroid case drug  
her into the crowd by one leg. I seen  
someone rip off her G-string. They  
was eatin' it! They're crazy!

NETTY  
Looks like the nose. It's broken.

DOTTIE  
Oh, Jesus! I'm disfigured!!

Sounds from a STRUGGLE erupts from the hall.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Angelessa has Mother in a headlock. Mother's dress is ripped and she's completely disheveled. Tiger watches at the doorway.

MOTHER  
Three hundred dollars!

Angelessa bangs Mother's head into the wall.

MOTHER  
Six hundred!

TIGER  
Hi there, Lessa.

ANGELESSA  
How you doin'?

MOTHER  
(Freeing herself)  
You bitch! Tore my bra pad off!

ANGELESSA  
'Night, Mother.

Angelessa unloads with a solid right hook and Mother careens back against the wall and drops. Netty, standing in the doorway, stomps her feet.

NETTY  
Goddammit, stop the rough-housin'!

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Passing Netty, Angelessa run in and grabs her bag. A moment later Big Man staggers in. His shirt is torn and his jacket is covered in garbage and spilled liquids from the arena floor.

NETTY  
Hold on now...

ANGELESSA  
Bye, Netty. Adios, Big Man.

BIG MAN  
(Dazed)  
Yeah...

TIGER  
Left three cans a' dog food. Via con Dios, Big Man.

DOTTIE (OS)  
Oh, my God. It's really broken!

Tiger bolts out as Big Man comes out of his stupor. Angelessa follows, but Big Man grabs her and shoves her back inside.

BIG MAN  
You have screwed with my hustle, you miserable slimeball skank!

Angelessa drops her bag and charges headlong into him.

NETTY  
Blow it off, Lessa! Christ's sake!

DOTTIE  
Mama, She broke my nose!

And the fight is on. At the start, Angelessa dominates, backing Big Man against the lockers, wailing away at him. Dottie runs out into hallway, to Mother's side.

BIG MAN  
Off me!!

But, the tide soon turns and Big Man presses Lessa back.

NETTY  
Big Man!

DOTTIE  
There'll be media, Mama. We cain't be on TV all ruint.

Dottie pulls Mother to her feet. Big Man pummels Lessa.

BIG MAN  
Yes! Oh, yes!!

DOTTIE  
My God, Mama. It's the apocalypse. They ate Dolly. We cain't be here!

Dottie pulls Mother to the back door. Finally stopping, Big Man slams Lessa into the lockers. She drops to the floor.

CLOSE UP - KID CAYMAN

Without warning, Kid pulls up Dolly's 9mm and fires.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Big Man is hit in the thigh. He sits down, suddenly and awkwardly. The room goes silent, only the SCREAMING crowd in the arena can be heard.

BIG MAN  
I'm shot! You shot me!! Eddie? What's Eddie doin' here? Christ, he shot Eddie. You're a serial killer!

Lessa stumbles to her feet. She staggers to the water pail and splashes some on her face. Netty looks at the mess.

NETTY  
You okay, Lessa?

Dani dashes in, her the ninja costume has a sleeve torn off.

DANI  
Those hicks they're... unbelievable... on  
the floor, in the ring, I'm tellin'  
ya', them hicks gone ape! What the...?

BIG MAN  
I'm shot. I'm shot down...

NETTY  
(Kneels down to help)  
Let me see.

BIG MAN  
(Slaps at her hands)  
Get off me!

Still raging, Lessa trashes the sister's stuff, knocking  
things off the dressing table, ripping the unit apart.

ANGELESSA  
(Tossing clothes about)  
Yes!!

DANI  
Goddammit, Lessa!  
(Turns to Big Man)  
Who shot you?

BIG MAN  
Who gives a crap! I'm shot!

DANI  
You still here?

CAYMAN  
(Still holding the gun)  
Just passin' through.

DANI  
Eddie? Is that Eddie?

ANGELESSA  
(Ripping an outfit)  
Sequins. Man, I hate sequins!

DANI  
(Checking on Eddie)  
Jesus. This ain't my style. We gotta'  
blow, Netty. Blow now!

INT. SPORTSDROME ARENA - NIGHT

The crowd is in full riot, pressing for the wrestler's exit. Security tries to hold them off, but they're overrun. The curtain rack and lighting rig collapse with a crash.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Dani turns around, hearing the noise outside.

DANI  
You hear that? They're comin'.  
(To Kid)  
Don't shoot. Don't shoot me.

CAYMAN  
(Chuckles)  
Okay.

ANGELESSA  
(Surveying the damage)  
Lookin' good.

Nola BANGS on the broom closet door. Dani jumps.

NETTY  
Oh, God.

DANI  
What's that? Not Dwayne again!

Netty runs to the broom closet and unlocks the door.

NETTY  
I completely forgot.

Nola bursts out of the broom closet.

NOLA  
I... no air... banging and yellin'...  
(Sees the wreckage)  
Jeeminy, holy... boy-howdy!

Lessa throws the last of her things in her bag.

DANI  
Now. Out now!  
(Scooping up the cash)  
There's gonna' be cops.

NOLA  
We are all gonna' die.

NETTY  
You want me stay, Big Man?

She touches his leg. He yelps.

BIG MAN  
That hurt, okay?

DANI  
Time to roll, Netty. Come on!

NETTY  
Poor darlin'.

BIG MAN  
Get your finger out of the bullet  
hole! You could kill a freakin' tree!

Dani grabs Netty and drags her to the door.

DANI  
Cops, Netty... freaked out hicks...  
(Points to Eddie and Big Man)  
They're gonna' pin it on us.

Kid taps Dani's shoulder. She whirls to face him.

CAYMAN  
Say...

DANI  
Don't even look at me.

CAYMAN  
Kid Cayman... How you doin'?

DANI  
Screw you!  
(Has a thought)  
You got a car, Pop?

CAYMAN  
Car, huh? Yeah. Got me a ninety-seven  
cadmium red Pontiac Firebird. Parked  
right out front.

ANGELESSA  
You lookin' for company?

CAYMAN  
Always lookin' for company. Got a  
workin' radio and she's seats five.  
(Gives Lessa the keys)  
Pull it around back, I'll be along.

ANGELESSA

Okay.

CAYMAN

(Smiles admiringly)

Don't mention it. Ooooo, you was poetry in motion. Solid left.

DANI

Are you all like deranged!?! Go!

Angelessa heads for the door.

NETTY

Come on, honey.

(Grabs Nola's hand)

Mama will take care of you.

DANI

Move it! Move it! Go! Go!

Dani shoves them all out. As they hit the door, Eddie revives and suddenly grasps Lessa's ankle. She stomps on his hand.

ANGELESSA

I hope you don't die, but I hope... you come... goddamned close! Amen.

Going down to one knee, Lessa pries herself loose and exits.

DANI

So long, Big Man.

BIG MAN

Get me some help.

DANI

Sure.

(To Kid)

Move it out, Pops.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Dani dashes for the backdoor. Vernon and Curtis watch her pass, see the mob coming, and then quickly follow her out.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Kid makes his way to Big Man. He puts the gun in his jacket. On the floor, Big Man gulps for breath.

BIG MAN  
You snuffed me.

CAYMAN  
You won't die. I didn't hit you in  
the right spot.  
(Looks at Eddie)  
I hit him in the right spot.

EDDIE (OS)  
...my dick...

CAYMAN  
You Jack Vag's kid. You used to be  
coffee boy down at Joe Louis' Gym.  
(Notes Big Man's reaction)  
Now, you doin' this trash.

BIG MAN  
What the Hell are you doin'?

CAYMAN  
Keepin' you company.

BIG MAN  
Don't ditch me.

CAYMAN  
Want a smoke?

BIG MAN  
Yeah.

CAYMAN  
Hurtin' people, now that's a serious  
gig. I don't play with it. When I  
hurt'em, I hurts'em.

Grinning, he squats down by Big Man. He takes a cigar out of Big Man's front pocket and places it in his mouth.

CAYMAN (CONT'D)  
I tell you I fought Sandy Sadler  
three times? Second time, a woman  
come to this here dressing room, bare  
shoulders, ball gown. She took off a  
diamond bracelet, give it to me and  
said, "You, sir, gave a fine account  
of yourself."

Grunting, Kid stands up and tips over a bank of lockers,  
revealing a hidden door.

CAYMAN (CONT)

Came through that door in a China silk dress. Took me to her home on a bluff overlooking a wide turn in the Mississippi and we danced the Samba to a sixteen-piece all-girl band from Venezuela.

Kid opens the door and shuffles down the access corridor.

CAYMAN (CONT)

Sandy was there, too. Two-Ton Tony Galento was in town. Ooooo, he was light on his feet. The referee was dancin' with the governor's wife. And Ol' Jake Lamotta was waltzin' with a nine-year-old girl standin' on his shoes. What a sight. Waiters in their white coats even joined in.

His voice recedes as he disappears into the darkness.

CAYMAN (CONT) (OS)

All of us laughin' and hummin' along while the moon went down. A girl who played clarinet in that band left a camellia on my pillow. 'Course those were different times then... different times.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Kid's Firebird zooms up the road as two police cruisers and an ambulance scream by heading back to the arena.

INT. KID'S CAR - NIGHT

Dani looks back as the EMS rig zips by. While Kid drives, Nola is scrunched between Netty and Lessa in the back.

NETTY

Good God, what'er we gonna' do now? They gonna' come lookin' for us.

ANGELESSA

Memphis? What do you think, Kid?

CAYMAN

Weren't on my list, but I'll detour  
for you ladies. Used to be a gym down  
near Beale Street. Café next door  
served the best pork you ever had.

Dani looks back at Nola, wide-eyed in the back seat.

DANI

We droppin' you off somewhere?

NOLA

I'm in real trouble when I get home.  
Mama's gonna let me have it.

DANI

You wanna' go to Memphis, Frenchy?

NOLA

Maybe the U.S.W.F. will be lookin'  
for some female talent.

Dani pulls Lady Doom's mask from her bag. Nola takes it.

DANI

Lady Doom is due for a comeback.

NOLA

She is, huh?  
(Puts on the mask)  
How do I look?

DANI

Like a 'rassler.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Kid's Firebird plunges into the night, the ladies LAUGHING.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

The riotous noise outside the hall door rouses Big Man. The  
lights flicker and suddenly there is a BANGING on the door.

VOICE (OS)

We know ya'll in thar'! You're dead  
meat, you hear?

BIG MAN

Eddie? You there?

EDDIE

Yeah... Yeah, I'm here...

The door shudders with each impact. The lights grow dim. Suddenly, a fire axe punches through the door. One-Eye peers through the newly hacked open hole.

BIG MAN

How much you got left?

No answer. The noise outside grows deafening. A moment later, the door gives and as the mob rushes in everything goes BLACK.

CREDITS