

Five O'Clock
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FADE IN

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

NICK, Caucasian, late twenties, dressed in a suit. He has a cut on his cheek. His suit is ripped. He looks like he's been through Hell.

AMANDA, Caucasian, late twenties, dressed in pajamas. She is bruised. Her hair is in disarray. She is staring off into the distance.

Amanda and Nick sit on their couch. There are multiple cops around the house. There is a visible body on the table in the room behind them.

DETECTIVE, in his fifties, dressed in a suit with a badge. He looks solemn but serious.

DETECTIVE

Let's start from the beginning.

Amanda continues to stare off into the distance. Nick looks at her, sighs, and then back at the cop.

NICK

Well.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KITCHEN - EARLY MORNING

Amanda is in the kitchen, drinking coffee. She is in her pajamas, looking worried. Nick walks into the room. He is in his suit.

NICK

Morning.

AMANDA

Morning. Remember you can't be late tonight.

NICK

I won't be.

Amanda looks as though she wants to believe him, but isn't sure that she can.

NICK

(Kisses Amanda seductively)
Hey...look. I know these hours
have been ridiculous lately. I
hate it just as much as you do.
But we're finishing up this
account soon. When we finally
land it, you and I will go
somewhere far away where we can
relax and be alone.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

We are looking into the kitchen from the back yard—almost as if
someone is watching from afar. The conversation between Amanda
and Nick is continuing, but we no longer hear it.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - EARLY MORNING

Nick looks at his watch while he takes a sip of the coffee.

NICK

I've got to get going. I'll see
you tonight.

AMANDA

(Kisses Him)

Five O'clock. Remember

The doorbell rings. Nick looks confused and slightly agitated.

NICK

Isn't it a bit early?

CUT TO:

INTERIOR - FRONT DOOR

ROCKY, Caucasian, Mid-Thirties, dressed like a package delivery
person. He has facial hair and speaks angrily.

Nick walks to the door and opens it. At the front door is an
unknown man who is dressed as a delivery service man.

NICK

Isn't it a bit early?

ROCKY

Agreed. You are the first package of the day. Actually, one Amanda Coleman is. Is she the woman of the house?

NICK

Yep. I can sign for her.

Nick grabs the digital signing system. Inside the house—behind him—he hears his wife scream.

NICK

Amanda!?

When he turns back to look at the delivery man, Rocky slams the package against Nick's face. Nick falls to the ground, unconscious.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BASEMENT - LATE MORNING

Nicks wakes up. His head is in his wife's lap. She looks at him, worried. Nick looks around and realizes that they are in the basement. Nick sits up and grabs his head. He has a horrible headache from the hit to the head.

NICK

What's going on.

AMANDA

(Cautiously)

They locked us in the basement.
I tried to find a way out. But...

NICK

How long was I out?

AMANDA

At least an hour or two. I'm not sure. They took my phone.

Nick stands up and tries the door. It's locked. He looks around before realizing that his wife is bruised. He runs to her.

NICK

What did they do to you?

AMANDA

(touching her face)

Oh. Right. They were a bit rough when they brought me down here.

The door to the upstairs opened. A man dressed in black walks in with his gun raised. A few seconds later, the leader of the gang walks in. He is still covered in black clothing. Nick looks angry but doesn't take a step towards them.

NICK

What the Hell are you doing?

ROCKY

Do not worry yourself, Nicolas. So long as your wife is willing to do what is asked of her, we will leave you in peace.

Nick takes an aggressive step forward. He stops when the guard points his gun directly at him. Nick relaxes.

ROCKY

There is a catch, Nicolas. If your wife refuses, you will be killed. Don't worry. We'll make it fast.

NICK

Do you really think the police won't find you.

ROCKY

They may. That is not for you to worry about, Nicolas. You have something more important to think about right now.

NICK
(Sarcastically)
What is that?

ROCKY
Your wife can agree or disagree.
Either way, you will never see
each other again. Time to say
goodbye.

NICK
What do you mean?

ROCKY
You have fifteen seconds left.

Nick looks taken aback. He turns to his wife. Amanda looks worried. He pulls her into a close hug. He whispers in her ear.

NICK
It will all be okay.

Amanda nods. They kiss. The guard pulls Amanda out of the kiss. She starts screaming. She resists enough that the guard just pulls her up the stairs instead of trying to carry her. Nick tries to chase after her, but the gang leader has a gun out. They stare at each other until Amanda is upstairs. The gang leader follows them upstairs and locks the door.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The Detective looks at Amanda with suspicion.

DETECTIVE
Officer Monroe? Can you come
over here?

A young officer comes over to the Detective.

DETECTIVE
Nick. Officer Monroe is going to
continue to interview you in a
separate room. Unfortunately,
since there was a death here

today, we are going to have to interview you and your wife separately.

NICK

Detective. We haven't told anyone this yet. Actually...

Nick looks at his watch.

NICK

It's five o'clock. We were supposed to meet our parents for dinner. Amanda is pregnant. We just found out actually. Can you make sure she is looked after?

DETECTIVE

Of course, Nick. And
Congratulations.

The officer and Nick go into another room. The detective turns back towards Amanda. His demeanor changes to serious immediately.

DETECTIVE

Amanda. Do you mind telling me
what's going on here?

Amanda eyes the Detective with suspicion. Eventually, she sits up and leans close to him

AMANDA

How did you know?

DETECTIVE

I'm more confused about how your husband doesn't realize something is off about the situation.

AMANDA

He doesn't know. Can you promise
me that he won't find out?

DETECTIVE

I cannot promise you. If this
situation goes to trial,

everything is made public. What I can promise you is that you will be charged with impeding an investigation if you do not explain what is going on here.

Amanda sits back in her seat. She bites her lips as she tries to figure out what to do. She waits a few seconds before she speaks.

AMANDA

Fine. But I have to start at the beginning. I was 15

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

YOUNG AMANDA, Caucasian, 15, dressed stylishly.

Young Amanda walks down the alleyway with a big smile. In the distance, she hears a commotion. She sees two men struggling down the alleyway. Young Amanda hides behind a bush.

YOUNG AMANDA

(Voiceover)

I was coming home from my boyfriend's house. When I heard the struggle, I hid.

A shot rings out. Young Amanda jumps. In the distance, one of the men falls to the ground. The man with the gun (Young Rocky) runs down the alleyway in the direction of Young Amanda. Young Rocky does not see Young Amanda. Young Amanda sees Young Rocky's perfectly in the light of a lamppost. Young Amanda stays behind the bushes after he leaves. Eventually, we see red and blue lights flickering.

YOUNG AMANDA

(Voiceover)

I stayed until the cops showed up. They found the body. Then they found me. I told them everything.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Amanda and the Detective are in the same place as when she started telling the story.

AMANDA

I gave them a description. They found him. I testified against him. He was a minor. It was a mugging gone wrong. It didn't matter. The evidence and my testimony was enough. He was given 25 years for third degree murder.

DETECTIVE

I've been with the force for thirty years. Why don't I know about this case?

AMANDA

I went away for college and stayed away. Too many people back home know my story. At least, that's what I told myself. I knew that I didn't want to be accessible when his time was up. Apparently, I was wrong.

DETECTIVE

So this was the same man?

AMANDA

Yes. He tracked me down somehow.

DETECTIVE

So you think he was coming to get revenge?

Amanda leans back in her seat and looks away.

DETECTIVE

Amanda? What am I missing?

AMANDA

(Stuttering)

He-uh-he did come. He got out

early for good behavior. He brought a gun. He was ready to kill me and run. But that was four months ago.

DETECTIVE

Four months ago? What happened?

Amanda stares off. She looks frightened.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KITCHEN - EARLY MORNING

Amanda is making breakfast for herself. She is still in her pajamas. The radio is playing softly in the background. She is singing along. After several seconds, the doorbell rings. Amanda answers it. Rocky stands in the doorway. He has a gun aimed at her. They both look at each other wordlessly. When Rocky doesn't pull the trigger, Amanda starts talking.

AMANDA

Please.

Rocky shows no sign of hearing her.

AMANDA

Do you—do you want to come
inside.

Rocky slowly lowers the gun and walks into the house. Amanda directs him to sit down at the dining room table. She puts the meal she was preparing on a plate and gives it to him. Amanda takes the seat across from Rocky. Rocky puts his gun away and starts eating.

AMANDA

When did you get out?

ROCKY

Last week.

AMANDA

Are you going to kill me.

ROCKY

I thought I was. I guess I

forgot how hard it is to kill a
person.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Amanda and the Detective are in the same seats as before.

DETECTIVE

So what happened? Why now?

Amanda starts crying silently. Tears roll down her cheek

AMANDA

I didn't mean for it to happen.
Nick was working 12 or 14 hours a
day. He was never here. I was
so lonely. At first, it was just
talking. But then...

The Detective leans back in his chair and rubs his face—
stressed.

DETECTIVE

An affair? That still doesn't
explain why Rocky tried to kill
you.

AMANDA

He didn't try to kill me. When
he found out I was pregnant, he
asked me to run away with him.
When I told him no, he took
things into his own hands.

DETECTIVE

Did he think the baby was his?

AMANDA

Detective. Look. I've been
married to Nick for six years.
We've been trying to conceive
for five years. Rocky has good
reason to believe this baby is
his.

The Detective taps his fingers anxiously as he takes in the information. The officer that took Nick away earlier enters. He tells The Detective that Nick admitted to killing Rocky. The Detective looks at Amanda. He stands up and walks into the separate room. Nick is sitting there upright.

DETECTIVE

Would you mind retelling the
story you just told Officer
Monroe?

NICK

Is my wife okay?

DETECTIVE

Your wife is doing fine. Please
tell me what happened.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BASEMENT - LATE AFTERNOON

Nick paces in the basement alone. He hears people moving about the house. Eventually, he spots a shadow cross in front of the door to the upstairs. He walks silently to the top of the stairs. He waits for a shadow to cross in front of the door again. When it does, he slams his body against the door as hard as possible. It smashes open. The man behind the door falls to the ground. He is still dressed head to toe in black. Nick wrestles the gun away from him. Nick aims the gun at the man. The man holds up his hands.

MAN IN BLACK

Please.

Nick hits the man with the butt of the gun. The man goes limp. Nick looks around the room to make sure Rocky isn't around. Nick drags the man in black to the living room. He goes through the man's pockets. It doesn't seem like the man has any identification on him. Then Nick finds a picture in his pocket. The picture is of Amanda. He flips the picture over. On the back it says: "Scare her. Do not hurt her in any way." After reading this, the man in black groggily starts to wake up. Nick takes a couple steps back and raises the gun to him. Rocky appears in the room behind Nick.

ROCKY

It didn't have to be this way,
Nicolas.

Nick turns towards the dining room. Rocky is holding a gun against Amanda's head. Nick keeps his gun aimed at the man in black. Amanda looks surprisingly calm. Rocky is shaky. They stare at each other for several seconds before speaking.

NICK

Let her go. Let her go and I'll
let him go.

ROCKY

(laughing)

What makes you think I care about
that man?

Without warning, Rocky shoots the man in black. The man in black goes limp. Nick looks taken aback. Nick points his gun at Rocky. Rocky points his gun at Amanda.

ROCKY

You can't win this one, Nicolas.

NICK

(Walking forward slowly)
You're right. You have control
over the situation, don't you?
Except, in order for you to
maintain control, you have to
prove to me that you are able to
hurt Amanda. Can you? Because,
if you can't, you have no
leverage.

Rocky looks worried. Nick pulls out the picture while still aiming his gun at Rocky.

NICK

(Reading)

Scare her. Do not hurt her in
any way.

Rocky tries to aim his gun away from Amanda and at Nick. Nick shoots. Rocky falls backward onto the dining room table.

Amanda looks at Rocky's dead body. Nick comes up behind her and envelopes her in a hug. They break away after several seconds.

NICK

Who the Hell was he?

AMANDA

I have no idea.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SITTING ROOM - NIGHT

Nick looks up, past The Detective. He sees that Amanda is standing just outside the room. She heard the whole story. Nick and Amanda stare at each other. The camera zooms up on Amanda's face. Her face holds the emotion of the situation

FADE OUT

THE END