

KIDNAP IN ROOM 12

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INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

DANIELLE (female, 30s) sits on a bed pale faced, her feet bound, and hands tied to the bedpost. Her eyes are damp, lips trembling.

DANIELLE  
516-942-79-82

A phone beeps, begins ringing. In front of Danielle stand 5 people:

CHERRY (male, 30s) holds the phone while chewing gum. His face is unmasked, eyes fixed on Danielle.

LEMON (male, 20s) sits on the bed looking away from Danielle. His balaclava only reveals his eyes and nose. Currently typing on a laptop.

THREE OTHER PEOPLE, 2 WOMEN and 1 MAN, stand as guards around the room. Their balaclava are all the way up, revealing only eyes. They stand looking away from Danielle.

The phone clicks. Someone has picked up on the other side.

CHERRY  
(into phone)  
Is this Nicholas?

RECEIVER  
Yes, who's asking?

CHERRY  
I go by the name, Cherry. My buddy Lemon and I have your wife. Are you listening?

NICHOLAS  
I'm listening.

CHERRY  
Good. In the next 6 hours, your wife will be dead. Your children will have no mother. You will have no one to come home to at night. Are you listening to me Nicholas?

NICHOLAS  
Yes sir.

CHERRY

Good. If you do not want this. If you want your wife to live, you're going to listen to my next words very carefully. Do you hear me Nicholas?

NICHOLAS

I hear you sir.

CHERRY

You're going to send Lemon and I the sum of 400 thousand dollars. No wires. No checks. In cash. Do you understand?

NICHOLAS

I understand.

CHERRY

Good. I'm --

NICHOLAS

I understand, but I am not going to be sending you this money.

CHERRY

What did you say?

NICHOLAS

I said I've heard your request. I've thought about it, and I will not be sending 400 thousand dollars to you. Not now, not in 6 hours, it's never happening.

CHERRY

Nicholas. I will repeat myself, this one time. I have your wife with me. I have her. I'm looking at her sweaty tits right now. You don't get to say what you will or won't do. I have all the cards.

NICHOLAS

Well, I'm not playing. Goodbye Mr. Cherry.

Nicholas hangs up. Cherry's eyes widen. He looks at Danielle, questioning. *That's your husband?* Danielle looks down, embarrassed.

LEMON

What we gon' do now boss?

CHERRY  
Give me a minute Lemon, Cherry's  
thinking.

(beat)  
We need to cut a finger. Show the  
bastard we're not playing.

Danielle jerks up, yelling.

DANIELLE  
WAIT! WAIT!

One of the guards turns around, duct tape in hand. He pulls  
the tape, warning.

Danielle quiets down.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)  
Sorry. Wait!

Cherry turns to face her.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)  
Can I make a suggestion? Please?

Cherry pauses, gazes at her for a beat. Gestures his hands as  
permission for her to speak.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)  
Thank you. What if I talk to him?  
If I talk to him, I can get him to  
cooperate. I can make him see that  
this is serious. I am a mother. My  
babies need me. Please.

Cherry listens. He has a hand on the bridge of his nose and  
his eyes are closed.

Suddenly, he opens his eyes. Turns in the direction of his  
bag.

He opens his bag, pulls out a revolver.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)  
NO!

CHERRY  
Shut up! Listen. You have one  
chance to convince your husband  
that your life is worth 400  
thousand dollars. One chance. Do  
you hear me?

Danielle nods.

CHERRY (CONT'D)  
If the bastard doesn't budge...

(laughs)  
You better pray the bastard gives 2  
shits about you.

Cherry seizes the phone from the bed, dials a number. Waits.

Ring number 3.

Ring number 4.

DANIELLE  
(under her breath)  
Pick up. Pick up.

Ring number 5.

Goes to voicemail.

Cherry turns to Danielle, eyes glowering.

He tosses the phone on the bed, swings in the direction of  
the gun.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)  
NO, NO!

As he approaches the gun - the phone rings.

Nicholas is calling.

Cherry takes a deep breath. Swirls his neck and goes to pick  
up the phone.

CHERRY  
You're one son of a bitch, you know  
that right?

NICHOLAS  
You called me.

CHERRY  
I'm going to repeat myself. This is  
the second time. I don't like  
repeating myself. We have your  
wife. She's right in front of us,  
and we will kill her. She wants to  
talk.

Cherry approaches a shaking Danielle, sticks the phone in her face.

DANIELLE

(hysterical)

NICK! NICK! It's me. Please pay them whatever they want. They've got me Nick. Its 5 people, I'm scared. Nick, you're worth more than 400 thousand. Please Nick! Please.

Cherry pulls the phone away. Puts phone back to his mouth.

CHERRY

Still think we're fucking around?

Silence on Nicholas' end. We hear his breathing. Steady, collected.

NICHOLAS

200. 200k. Final offer.

Cherry spits out his gum.

CHERRY

Are you fucking with me asshole?! This is not a negotiation.

(to Lemon)

Prepare the link.

(back to phone)

You got your laptop in front of you?

NICHOLAS

Why?

CHERRY

Do you have your laptop in front of you asshole?!

NICHOLAS

Yes, I have my laptop in front of me.

CHERRY

Good. Stay put, we're sending you a little something.

NICHOLAS

I'm calling the police.

CHERRY  
CALL THE POLICE AND YOUR WIFE DIES!  
Does it sound like this is a  
fucking joke? We have her. WE HAVE  
HER. Do you understand me?

LEMON  
Boss, the link is ready.

Cherry now with his hand on his head, pacing.

CHERRY  
Alright. What's your email address?

NICHOLAS  
What if I don't tell you?

CHERRY  
WHAT IS YOUR FUCKING EMAIL?

NICHOLAS  
nickmayers@aol.com

LEMON  
(scoffs)  
Fucking AOL!

CHERRY  
Send him the link Lemon.

LEMON  
Gimme a sec boss.

Lemon pulls out a USB webcam, sets it on the table in the direction of Danielle.

He goes back to his laptop, presses a few more buttons.

LEMON (CONT'D)  
It's done boss. We're live!

CHERRY  
(into phone)  
Do you see the email?

NICHOLAS  
Yes, yes I do.

CHERRY  
Open it.

(beat)  
Have you opened it?

NICHOLAS

It's open.

CHERRY

Click on the link.

LEMON

(looking at his laptop)  
1 guest viewing. He's watching.

A sweaty Danielle cries on the laptop feed.

CHERRY

You like seeing your wife like  
this?

Danielle mutters silently into the camera, pleading to her  
husband.

NICHOLAS

Can I talk to my wife?

CHERRY

She can hear you.

NICHOLAS

I'm so sorry Danny. I just can't  
afford to pay 400k at this time.

DANIELLE

Nick, please. They're going to kill  
me.

NICHOLAS

No, they won't. They need you. They  
won't hurt you.

CHERRY

You think we're bluffing?! This son  
of a bitch actually thinks we're  
fucking bluffing!

Cherry slams the phone on the table. Grabs his gun. Points it  
at Danielle.

CHERRY (CONT'D)

There's one round in this SAA. I'm  
gonna spin the cylinder, and for  
every wrong thing you say, I'm  
gonna shoot.

NICHOLAS

What if I don't say anything.



Cherry pulls trigger. Nothing.

Danielle's breathing is loud. Short quick breaths.

CHERRY  
400 thousand dollars Mr. Nick.  
Deal?

NICHOLAS  
I can't --

Cherry pulls trigger. Nothing.

DANIELLE  
NICK! NIIICKK!! Just pay the money!  
Think about Brad and Julia. I need  
my kids. Please!

NICHOLAS  
Honey, stop shouting. Don't feed  
into it. They need you.

Cherry pulls trigger. Nothing.

CHERRY  
Nick. I suggest you choose your  
next words very carefully. .

Silence. For a long beat.

NICHOLAS  
I'm sorry.

BANG!

CUT TO:

BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

NICHOLAS  
Is she dead? Hello? Hello?

Cherry's finger presses the red. Ends call.

The USB webcam is on the floor. The laptop screen closed.

Danielle breathes heavily, eyes darting uncontrollably in shock.

The three guards take off their balaclava to reveal JUSTIN, SERENA, and TISH.

Tish approaches Danielle, unbinds her legs and hands.

DANIELLE

I don't understand

SERENA

What choice did we have? This was the only way you were gonna see.

Danielle is speechless.

JUSTIN

It was all my idea. If you want to blame anybody, blame me. I just knew we had to do something. You were intoxicated Danny, you couldn't see him for the sleazy bastard he really is.

SERENA

You could have died Danny. You could have died and your husband, the man you've dedicated the last 7 years of your life to, was going to let it happen.

TISH

You know he paid Trixie's ransom right?

Danielle wrinkles her eyebrows.

SERENA

She's the one he's been sleeping with. The one Tish has been telling you about. You wouldn't listen to any of it.

TISH

She was kidnapped. 4 days ago. 2 million dollars, and he paid within hours. For Trixie!

JUSTIN

How else were we gonna make you see? He doesn't value you Danny!

Danielle rubs her head, and wipes her tears. She closes her eyes for a moment, and then opens them in the direction of Cherry. She stares at him, turns back to her friends. *Who is this man?*

CHERRY

I guess I'll go. The bullets - plastic. You were never in any real danger. As for who I am? Friend of Tish. She called me up, told me about the job. Sounded like too much fun to pass up.

LEMON

I just came along. Needed some inspiration for this game I'm making.

CHERRY

I'm sorry if I frightened you. You're a beautiful woman, you don't need that son of a bitch.

JUSTIN

You really don't.

SERENA

Honestly.

Danielle remains mute. Breathing returning to normal. Tears drying away.

SERENA (CONT'D)

Please say something Danny. You're scaring me.

Danielle gets up. Stagger, but finds her balance. She slowly walks to the fridge. Opens it. Grabs a bottle of water.

After downing the water for what seems like hours, she exhales loudly. Turns to her friends.

DANIELLE

Don't you ever EVER pull some shit like this ever again. Never! You understand?

FRIENDS

Yes/ Agreed/ Settled.

Her friends hang their heads low.

Danielle takes another gulp of water. Tightens the cap.

DANIELLE

However...

Suddenly, everybody looks up. Inquisitive.

DANIELLE

(picking the gun from the  
table)

We need to do something about that  
son of a bitch.

She looks up at her friends, a devious smile growing.

Her friends smile back as Cherry and Lemon nod approvingly.

And with a gun in Danielle's hand and a smile on her face,  
we:

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END.