WRONG MARK

Written by Darren J Seeley FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gloved hands push a door open.

Moonlight and a flashlight is all the INTRUDER needs to sneak around a residence. Whoever this person is, they have the place all to themselves.

Although he face is covered by a ski mask, and the bulky men's coat hides her figure, this upstanding citizen is LILY (30s) and she moves right to the dresser. She puts the flashlight, upright, on top.

Takes a pillow off the bed, yanks off the pillowcase.

She rummages through jewelry boxes. Holds random items and examines them in the light. Looks at a necklace, discards it. Finds a nice **silver bracelet**. Into the pillowcase it goes.

Opens the first drawer. Nightgowns. Underwear. Finds an envelope. Looks inside. Money. Into the Pillowcase it goes. Leaves the drawer open.

Back to the jewelry box. Dumps out the remaining contents.

INT. TRAILER - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

Lily lets herself in with a key. The place could use some cleaning up. She's not wearing her mask, but she's wearing a blonde wig. Sunglasses. Gloves. The same coat from before.

She takes off the coat, revealing another underneath.

TRAILER - BEDROOM

The wig sits on a end table. Lily's a brunette.

Lily takes a breath. Relaxes. Turns towards the queen size bed. Stares at one of the right pillow. The case doesn't quite fit the pillow. Yes. It's **THAT pillowcase**.

On the right side of the bed, an end table with an ashtray. One stub left behind.

> LILY (low, to herself) Something's missing.

Lily's eyes go to the DIGITAL CLOCK. 10 :30.

11:15.

BLUES MUSIC set on low, setting the mood.

MARK (30s) sits in a chair near the bed. Shirt and pants still on him. Legs stretched slightly out.

MARK Just let yourself in.

LILY

Wanted to surprise you.

MARK Don't sound like it.

LILY I didn't mean to disappoint.

MARK

It's okay. You didn't. But you know how things are. Call ahead, text.

LILY Doesn't matter.

MARK Really. Do enlighten me.

Lily casually lets her coat fall, showing off stockings, high heel pumps and lingerie.

She approaches him. Gets close. Moves around the chair. Caresses his shoulders. During the course of the conversation, she'll playfully unbutton his shirt, one at a time.

> LILY After tonight, I'll leave him. For good. No more hiding.

> > MARK

Good.

LILY I'll need your help though. Help pack my things. Move out.

MARK He already know? LILY Roger doesn't know about us. He only knows I'm moving out.

MARK Where you going to go?

LILY With you, stupid.

Mark laughs. Shakes his head in disbelief.

MARK

Serious?

A long kiss confirms her story.

MARK (CONT'D) No... No. Not here. Not in this dump. You got a house.

LILY His house. We're together. That's what matters.

She gets in front of him. Gets on her knees.

Wicked smile. Slips off his shoes.

MARK I need to think it over. I got two weeks, Lil. I don't want my P.O. poking around, asking about you.

She's about to take off his socks.

MARK (CONT'D) No. Not the socks.

LILY

Come on.

MARK Just one then.

She chooses the left one.

LILY First time you talked about him. Your P.O.

MARK Not a subject I like talking about. Less the better. He brushes his hair with the tips of her fingers.

MARK (CONT'D) Seeing another man's wife isn't something I want to advertise.

LILY I'm not *his* wife.

MARK

Bastard has in for me. He'll jam me up first chance just to jam me up. He finds out. Out of the blue, because he feels like it, he does a check on you. He meets your husband.

LILY Maybe you should be fucked her.

MARK

Might as well have, asshole acts like it. Bastard thinks he's a tent preacher. He might tell Roger. Roger finds out you're fooling around on him with an ex con, well, imagine his day in court.

She moves away from him, sits on the floor, Stretches out her legs in a crude but effective aerobic workout.

LILY He's going to give me half. And stop with the paranoia.

MARK I'm superstitious.

Her left leg navigates to his groin. The shoe lightly presses in a tease.

LILY Don't let the black cat cross you.

MARK

You mind?

Moves her foot away. Rests it on his thigh.

LILY What are you doing?

MARK What are you doing? LILY Party pooper, bring rain to the parade.

Her right leg comes, crosses over her left, rests on Mark's lap.

LILY (CONT'D)

Seem to have a lot on your mind. Could have flapped when you came home awhile ago. Now nothing but talk, talk, talk. No moans or groans, just talk.

MARK I thought women liked to talk before sex.

LILY I thought guys didn't talk during.

MARK Guess I'm just not in the mood.

LILY That's the idea. To get in it. Do you need more motivation?

He gives a stare. She makes a comical frown.

LILY (CONT'D) Come on. Relax and release the tiger...

Mark takes off one of her shoes. Wiggles it in front of her, drops it.

LILY (CONT'D) There you go. Getting in the picture...

Mark slips her second shoe off. Lets the shoe fall. Her right foot raises to meet his mouth.

LILY (CONT'D) You in my frame?

He undoes her stocking, takes part of it with his teeth. She withdraws her leg. The hose slips off.

BED

Mark, now shirtless, watches Lily as she dangles a pair of RED FLUFFY HANDCUFFS in front of him. Mark's shirt tossed on the left, over the pillow on that side.

> MARK Where'd you get those?

LILY My secret bodega.

She secures his left wrist to the bedpost.

LILY (CONT'D) Need a safe word?

MARK Key will do.

SHORT TIME LATER

1:42 am.

Lying in bed, Lily on top of Mark, right side of the bed. He's out of her kinky cuffs, which are still hanging from the bedpost.

> MARK I'm thinking only of you, okay?

LILY Sounds like you're thinking of yourself.

MARK Maybe a little of that too.

Mark lightly pushes her away. Sits up. Reaches in a nearby drawer, pulls out a cigarette and lights up. Lily sits up behind him.

LILY Jesus, Not like you killed somebody. You...didn't kill anyone? Hiding something from me?

MARK Even if you get the settlement, you want to stay in this run down pit I live in? LILY For a little while. I was thinking more like I get the money, we move in to a better place.

MARK Which means I'm nearly leeching of you. Or that's how it'll look.

LILY

You're crazy.

She reaches over, takes a hit of his cigarette.

MARK Damn right. It's too fast. Just give me a few weeks, see where I stand in the world.

LILY Think of the money.

MARK Yep. And that's the kind of thing that jammed me up in the first place.

Lily moves around him, stretches her arm to the ashtray on the table.

LILY I'm moving out, Mark. I'd like your help in getting my things. Tomorrow morning, Between 10 and 11.

Lily puts the cigarette out in an ashtray.

MARK I wasn't done with that.

LILY

Yes you were.

She resumes kissing his shoulders, neck and mouth. She lays him down, unhooking her stockings in the process.

LATER - NIGHT

2:30 AM

Still in his boxer shorts, Mark teases Lily's hair. She's out, topless face down, partially covered in blankets. He admires her form in the shadows of the blinds, moonlight the peeping tom. He lifts her arm, slides out of the bed. Careful not to wake her.

He walks out of the room.

KITCHEN

Mark takes a bottle of wine out of the fridge, pours himself a glass. He sits at the table, thinks.

The cell phone rings. Mark answers. A man's voice (KING), on the other end. Stern. Late 50s.

KING Two thirty in the morning, Mark. There a problem?

MARK Something's come up. Have to back out.

KING That's not going to work. Isn't anyone else. You're it.

MARK My girlfriend. She wants me to help her move at 10 in the morning.

KING Tell her to get in line because you got to toe the line.

MARK If I back down, the crew will do it another day. They're professionals.

KING Don't give them too much credit.

KING (CONT'D) Think you can make it to the score by two? Goes down at three.

MARK Can't say. I have to back out.

KING Sweet Jesus. You like her that much? MARK

I think I'm in love.

KING You think? Better be sure.

MARK I should tell her. She knows something's up.

KING She know about the job?

MARK

That's what I'm saying. It's been bothering me. I can't just tell her, you know? But I feel I got to.

KING Married woman, right? She tell her husband?

MARK She says she didn't.

KING

Figures. Way I see it, you're even. She's got a nerve asking you about things when she's fooling around. And you're felling guilty? Do what you want. You don't want to tell her, don't. You want to? Lay it out. She don't like it? You walk. Better she breaks your heart than breaking your balls.

MINUTES LATER

Mark hangs up, goes into "calls" and deletes the log of "KING". Opens the kitchen closet, slides his cell into a coat pocket. It's the same coat Lily had on when she entered his trailer from before.

Clink. There's something else in the pocket. Mark dives in, fishes out **THE SILVER BRACELET**.

Confused, not knowing where it came from. Lays it on the table. Checks the other pocket. A small stack of **MONEY**.

Mark's right where we left him. Dressed. Lily, also fully dressed, wig and gloves too, knocks on the table. The bracelet and money are gone.

LILY Wake-y wake-y. Rise and shine.

He snaps from the trance.

LILY (CONT'D) And you thought I was the early bird.

Lily takes what's left in his glass, downs it.

LILY (CONT'D) Could have had some of this last night.

MARK It was already open.

LILY

So?

MARK I didn't think it was your flavor.

LILY Good enough to drive?

MARK

I'm good. Listen. I'm been going over some things and I'm going to ask you right out, I won't ask again. So here it is. Before we go, is there anything you want to tell me?

LILY Rodger's not home, if that's what you mean. Wouldn't matter if he was. Here. Take this, if it makes you feel better.

Out of her purse, she lays a 22 on the table.

MARK I can't take that. Get it off my table. LILY It's not loaded.

MARK

I don't want it. You're nuts just for putting it in front of me. We're just getting your things. Nothing else.

Disgusted, she scoops it back up.

LILY

I wasn't going to let you keep it. It's mine.

MARK

Don't flash that around me again. Bad enough you had it with you the entire time. Leave it at your house. Or put it up wherever you want. I don't care where, so long as it isn't here.

LILY You'd have to follow me in your car. I...you're not coming?

MARK I'm reconsidering.

LILY Because of the qun?

MARK Good enough reason. Especially since you're just flashing it.

LILY Please, Mark?

MARK

Just so we are clear. If he's there, I'm gone. With or without you, I'm gone. You flash that again, I'm gone. If you come with me, you leave it or you get your own place.

LILY Fine. Yes. Okay. Can we go now?

MARK I'm going to ask again. Is there anything you want to tell me? LILY Damn, you are paranoid.

MARK Didn't say I was. I said I was superstitious. That's different.

LILY

How hard did we fuck?

MARK

What?

LILY I haven't got the faintest idea what you're going on about.

MARK

Talked to a compadre of mine last night. Twice. He wasn't happy to hear me the second time.

LILY

Your P.O.?

MARK

No, he's no friend. My boss friend is a friend. There's a piece of work I had to do later today. That's what was on my mind, that conflict of interest. They can't do it without me. But I want to help you.

LILY Well now this stirs up the pot. Does this job involve driving?

MARK Among other things.

LILY

Something bad?

MARK

I think you know what I'm talking about.

LILY Is there more to the story? MARK

Only what you need to know. So if there's anything you want me to know, that you think I should, now's the time.

LILY Let me follow your logic here. You won't take a gun -

MARK

I'm a driver. And I don't want your gun.

LILY

Well, excuse me. I'll put it another way. You can't decide if you want to be a getaway driver for a crime where you could get caught and go back to jail as opposed to helping me out, where there is no crime committed, get more monet, clean money, and you're less likely to go to jail? What's wrong with this picture?

MARK

I didn't say I'm involved in a crime. I said I had a job lined up and there could be a conflict.

LILY What is this? It's not even a debate.

Mark's cell phone rings.

MARK You get that for me? It's in my coat, right pocket.

LILY Which coat?

MARK

The big one.

Lily opens the closet. Reaches in Mark's coat. Pulls out the cell. Mark watches her reaction. There isn't any.

LILY Who's King?

MARK That's the boss. LILY Tell him to go jerk himself. MARK As much as I'd like to, I want to keep things civil. Please give it here. She hands him the phone. MARK (CONT'D) Yeah. KING She still there? MARK She is. KING Tell her anything? MARK She's clueless. Doesn't know anything. But that's alright. She thinks I'm stupid. LILY Hey -! Mark waves her off. KING Tell her to go to hell? MARK More or less what she said about you. KING What'd she say about me? MARK Not worth repeating. Anyway, Im going to sit this out. It's a nogo. KING Didn't work out, huh? Sorry to hear that.

MARK Yeah. We cool?

KING For now. We'll stand by just in case, see how things go. See if you change your mind.

MARK Alright, brother. Catch you later.

KING Yeah. We'll see. Later.

And with that, Mark smiles to Lily.

MARK Looks like you're on.

LILY Decisions. Decisions.

EXT. RURAL AREA - STREETS - DAY

Mark's rusty car follows Lily's Lexus.

ISOLATED HOUSE, loaded with quiet. It's modest, but it looks like something a company executive might buy. Not exactly a mansion, but it is impressive and imposing in excess.

They slow down. Lily parks in the driveway of the house. Mark parks in the street. Gets out. She doesn't notice that he's also wearing leather gloves when he goes over to

LILY'S CAR

Lily rolls down the passenger side window.

MARK What's the problem?

LILY I was thinking. Might be better if you parked down the street a ways.

MARK You don't like my car now? What's wrong with my car? LILY Really? Could you just do as I ask?

MARK He's here, ain't he? Or he's coming back? I meant what I said. We're doing this or we're not.

LILY Just get in your car...

MARK

Okay.

He leans in, she kisses him. Before he leaves, he glances quick to her closed trunk.

He gets in his car, drives down the street.

INT. MARK'S CAR

Parks it. Thinks to himself. Looks around. Raises his hand, debates silently. Nods his head in agreement with his choice.

Rear view mirror, From a distance, he watches Lily get out of her car, enter her house. Once the door closes...

He honks the horn. Twice.

Waits a minute. Gets out.

EXT. STREET

Walks toward her house. Takes off his gloves, shoves them in his coat pocket.

INT. LILY'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Lily, no wig, aims a .45 at the door.

DEAD RODGER, (40s) by her feet, dressed in a business suit, a bullet between the eyes.

Mark opens the door. Locks eyes with Lily.

MARK

Lily, wait -

She doesn't. POP! She fires twice, getting him in the chest.

She puts the gun down, Kicks Mark, making sure he's unresponsive. Satisfied, she plants the 22 in his right hand.

She jumps back in surprise when Mark ISN'T DEAD YET.

Lily goes back for the 45. Mark springs up, grabs her. Swings her around to face him.

MARK (CONT'D) I'm disappointed in you, Lily.

LILY But I shot you!

MARK And you tried to frame me. And you -

Looks over to Roger.

MARK (CONT'D) Did you - you killed him!

LILY

No shit!

MARK You shoot him, you shoot me. Make it look like a robbery or home invasion gone bad.

LILY Are you wearing a vest?

MARK

I guess I should be thankful you didn't blow my brains out. Listen to very carefully. You got less than a minute to make up your mind right now.

LILY

Mark -

MARK

I'm a cop! I been undercover working the southside crew for two months. I was going to tell you until I found the money you planted and the gun bullshit. Any minute now other cops are gonna come through that door because I tipped them.

He kisses her neck.

MARK (CONT'D)

We can still make this work. Another thief broke in, killed your husband. The crew I was going to bust? I can get rid of the merch you stole, put it on them. You and me? We get rich off the Rodger.

Lily breathes a sigh of relief.

LILY Sounds good. Okay.

MARK

Okay?

LILY

I got it.

MARK

Good.

(beat) Shit. That's right. You shot me twice. If it was just once, that's once. But twice. Plus, I already told King about the money and the bracelet...put the bracelet back in the pocket, you didn't ask, you already knew it was there, so. Yeah. Shit. It's not going to work.

He takes out a pair of handcuffs.

FADE OUT.