

THE SAFEHOUSE

WGA registered
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SAFEHOUSE

By: Bill Morroni

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FADE IN:

1 EXT. FOOTBALL GOAL POSTS AGAINST BLUE SKY - DAY 1

DISTORTED CHEERING: "JOHNNY, JOHNNY HE'S OUR MAN. IF HE CAN'T DO IT NO ONE CAN" (Continue: Mike, Bill, Tom, etc.)

CREDITS ALONG SIDE:

NICKI, a high school cheerleader, sweet. Innocent, pure, the girl next door, leaps against the sky, cartwheels, etc. She is bouncing with energy.

JOHNNY, the quarterback, stands against the sky. He takes off his helmet revealing a clean cut, handsome, sandy haired young man. Smiling he reaches out and draws Nicki next to him. Hand in hand they walk off.

KIM, a pretty young cheerleader enters. She has the same qualities as Nicki, her dark hair accents her dark concerned expression. She calls after Nicki, waving for her to come back, NICKI looks back at her, for a moment undecided. Then Johnny smiles at Nicki, puts his arm around her waist and leads her into:

END CREDITS

2 INT. JOHNNY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS 2

NICKI looks uncomfortable sitting on the edge of Johnny's bed.

She sips a beer and makes the face of a first time drinker. A Teddy Bear is tossed at her, she catches it and looks confused.

JOHNNY, smoking a joint, sits on the bed next to Nicki, which makes her even more nervous. Johnny zips open the back of the bear revealing his drug stash. He passes her the joint. She refuses. He insists.

Reluctantly Nicki takes a hit and coughs. Nicki weakly smiles back at him, then looks confused again as he holds a tiny spoon full of coke up to her nose.

Nicki tries to push the drug away but Johnny insists, almost forcing the spoon up her nose. Reluctantly she sniffs up the coke. Smiling, he rewards her with a tender kiss. She responds until he starts to push her down on the bed.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

She tries to push him away, but he overpowers her, pushing up her sweater. Suddenly another set of HANDS are holding her down.

Then a lot more HANDS are pulling at her clothes, grabbing at her, pulling open her thighs. Nicki freaks as the hands hold her down.

NICKI'S P.O.V. (distorted) - Johnny looms over her.

JOHNNY

(Distorted)

Relax, enjoy it. Come on, where's your team spirit?

SIX LEERING, SWEATY BOY'S FACES loom in all around her in constantly changing positions as Johnny and his teammates take their turns or spoon coke at her.

VARIOUS TEAMMATES

(Distorted)

We'll say it was your idea... It's your word against all of ours, Sweetheart... You're so tight, Baby... We'll tell everyone that you're a slut... We'll say we paid you in coke...

(Ad-Lib)

DISTORTED CHEERING UP

NICKI

(Distorted, pleading,
V.O.)

Please ...please ...stop ...LET ME GO...STOP...!

DISSOLVE

3 INT. JIMMY'S BEDROOM - DAY

3

It's decorated in black lacquer and lots of chrome, very modern and Walmart expensive.

NICKI, now twenty, is sprawled on the bed asleep. Her body is barely covered by the black sheets.

She struggles in her sleep, still having the nightmare.

NICKI'S DISTORTED PLEADING BECOMES:

VARIOUS GANG MEMBERS

(Shouting, O.S.)

...STOP! LET ME GO! ANAK NG PUTA!
GRAB HIM! DAGA! GRAB HIM! PUSONG!

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: 3

Nicki stirs, awakened by the noise. Shaking off the dream, she goes to the window to investigate.

4 EXT. NICKI'S P.O.V. - SECLUDED BACKYARD POOL - DAY 4

SIX YOUNG GANG MEMBERS are chasing JOEY AYALA, a mid-twenties Filipino, around the pool. They finally gang tackle him.

The struggling pile of bodies sorts out. The gang holds JOEY while JIMMY and MAX step back and look Joey over. Jimmy is the crews leader. Max is his buffed out lieutenant and DOUGHBOY is the biggest but mentally slowest of the crew. The rest are a mixed batch, racially and physically.

DOUGHBOY

Let me, Jimmy.

JIMMY

No! This Daga is mine.

Jimmy grabs Joey by his ear and whispers.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Daga. That means rat, Lilo, pusong.
Rato, right?

JOEY

We had a deal!

JIMMY

There's only one way to deal with
rats.

Jimmy settles into a martial arts stance while his gang forms a circle around him and Joey.

Joey looks around and settles into a martial arts stance.

5 INT. JIMMY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS 5

NICKI watches out the window.

JOEY (O.S.)

Six against one?

6 EXT. THE POOL - DAY 6

JIMMY puffs up.

JIMMY

I don't need help stepping on a rat.

Jimmy lunges at JOEY, who fends him off. Jimmy is no match for Joey who quickly gets Jimmy into a choke hold.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

DOUGHBOY and MAX have to help Jimmy break the hold. The rest of the crew grab Joey and struggle to hold him.

JOEY

Asshole! Let me go! Punks! Pussies!
(ad lib Filipino curses)

JIMMY

(still gasping)
Fuck this...

Jimmy stumbles behind Joey and goes to snap his neck.

7 INT. JIMMY'S BEDROOM - DAY

7

SHARP CRACK (O.S.)

NICKI looks away from the window, sickened. She steps back shocked and trembling as she realizes she has witnessed a murder.

8 EXT. THE POOL - DAY

8

Dead, JOEY collapses.

The curtains on the second floor bedroom window shake, as if they just closed or were blown by a breeze. MAX, points to the window.

MAX

Jimmy!

Jimmy looks up at the window.

JIMMY

Did she see?

Max shrugs, unsure.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

I better check.

DOUGHBOY

What about...?

He jerks his thumb at Joey's body.

Jimmy leans over the body, a switch blade knife flashes in his hand, he saws and hacks at something then comes up with Joey's ring finger, a ring still on it. Jimmy tosses the finger to DOUGHBOY, who catches it and makes a child's disgusted face..

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

JIMMY

Save this.

(to Max)

Make the rest tomorrows' special.

Jimmy exits as his crew drags the body away.

9 INT. JIMMY'S BEDROOM - DAY

9

THE SOUND OF SHOWERING (O.S.)

JIMMY enters. He takes a vial of coke and a gold coke spoon from the dresser and goes into the bathroom.

10 INT. JIMMY'S BATHROOM - DAY

10

NICKI'S shape can be seen through the steamy glass shower door. JIMMY enters.

NICKI

That you, Jimmy?

JIMMY

How long have you been in the shower?

In the shower Nicki struggles to sound calm.

NICKI

Any longer and I'll wrinkle.

JIMMY (O.S.)

Come on out.

NICKI

In a minute.

He opens the shower door.

JIMMY

I want you. Now!

He reaches in and pulls her to him. They kiss.

NICKI

I'm getting your clothes wet...

She slips back into the shower and starts to close the door.

Jimmy holds up the vial of coke. Nicki's expression changes from fear to anticipation. Smiling, she steps out to the shower and reaches for the gold spoon.

NICKI (CONT'D)

For me?

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

Jimmy holds the vial out of reach with one hand and grasps her wrist with the other, bending it back in a painful judo hold.

JIMMY

I don't see any wrinkles. How long have you been in the shower?

NICKI

I don't know, awhile, THAT HURTS!

JIMMY

Were you watching out the window?

NICKI

Watching what?

He applies more pressure, Nicki winces with pain, she is scared he will catch her lying.

NICKI (CONT'D)

No, Jimmy. I've been in the shower since I got up. Please, Honey, that hurts.

He lets her go.

JIMMY

Do you love me?

NICKI

You know I do.

She snorts and the coke relaxes her expression.

JIMMY

You'd never lie to me, would you?

NICKI

Never!

She kisses him.

His hand slides eagerly around her waist, pulling her even closer.

NICKI (CONT'D)

I have to get home. I haven't seen my Dad in two days.

She tries to disengage herself, but he holds her tighter.

JIMMY

See him later...

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (2) 10

NICKI

Come on, Jimmy, I have to...

He silences her with a finger to her lips.

JIMMY

...I know what's best for you.

He gives her another spoon of coke, then picks her up and carries her into the bedroom.

11 EXT. JIMMY'S HOUSE - BINOCULAR MATTE - DAY 11

A Van pulls out of the gated driveway, on its side in black letters: ALEJANDRO'S FILIPINO TAKE OUT & DELIVERY. MAX holds the gate as the Van drives off.

KEITH (O.S.)

Only a Filipino monkey could eat that garbage before lunch.

12 EXT. UNMARKED SEDAN - DAY 12

KEITH passes the binoculars to his partner JASON. JASON is 28 and has the wholesome blonde good looks of a Mormon from Utah. KEITH, 25, is handsome, dark, with the accent and wit of a street wise cop who worked his way out of a Baltimore slum.

JASON

Better Filipino than that junk food you eat.

Jason looks through the binoculars.

13 EXT. JIMMY'S HOUSE - BINOCULAR MATTE - DAY 13

NICKI, in a convertible, drives out of the gate and down the hill. She looks relieved to be away from the place,

JASON (O.S.)

...Look at that!

KEITH (O.S.)

Let me see!

14 EXT. UNMARKED SEDAN - DAY 14

KEITH snatches the binoculars from Jason.

JASON

How can a beautiful girl like that stomach a scum-bag like Jimmy.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

KEITH

She's a coke whore, you powder her nose and she polishes your tool, licks your stick, stiffens your resolve, rubs your chub...

JASON

You eat with that filthy mouth?

He takes the binoculars back from Keith.

15 EXT. CONVERTIBLE - BINOCULAR MATTE - DAY

15

NICKI, her hair blowing sensuously in the breeze, drives off.

16 INT. MOVING CONVERTIBLE - CONTINUOUS

16

NICKI puts a blue-tooth ear piece on and starts to dial then hesitates, after a moments indecision she conquers her fear and dials 911.

OPERATOR

(Phone filtered)

Nine-one-one emergency, can I help you?... Hello?...Is someone there?...Can you hear me?...If you're injured and unable to...

Fear reclaims Nicki, she hangs up and dials a seven digit number.

NICKI

Hey! Its me. I have to talk to you. Now. Can I come over?

She listens, then hangs up and continues driving off.

17 INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - DAY

17

TEA KETTLE WHISTLING

KIM, looking just as she did in Nicki's nightmare but wearing a robe, turns off the gas and takes the tea kettle off the stove.

NICKI (O.S.)

It was horrible.

Nicki sits at the kitchen table, her face buried in her hands.

Kim fills the tea cups then sits next to Nicki.

KIM

Call the police!

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

NICKI

I tried, but I keep remembering how he grabbed me in the shower and the look in his eyes...(Shudder)...If I rat I'm dead.

She takes a vial of coke from her purse and spoons some up in each nostril, the fear and tension leave her face. Kim refuses the coke.

NICKI (CONT'D)

If I tell you something, promise you won't think I'm awful.

KIM

What?

NICKI

We did it, right after, and it was the best I'd ever had. Jimmy has never been so excited.

KIM

No way.

NICKI

Multiples! Came so much I almost passed out.

Nicki spoons more coke up her nose, while Kim watches, concerned.

KIM

How much of that stuff ya doing?

NICKI

I can quit anytime. I'm a little upset now, my boyfriend just killed some guy in front me.

KIM

I warned you he was trouble.

NICKI

I know. I got the wrong man virus. You got to help me get rid of him.

KIM

Oh no, don't get me involved.

Nicki takes Kim's hand and pleads.

NICKI

It'll be easy. Max already has the hots' for you.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

KIM
He's a gorilla!

NICKI
That makes it easier. The first
time he gropes you, you storm out
and I go with you. Please Kim, you
have to help me....

Against her better judgment, Kim is thinking about it. Nicki
senses victory.

NICKI (CONT'D)
...You'll be saving my life.

KIM
O.K., O.K., but I'm not doing it for
you. I'm doing it for your Dad. If
anything happened to you it would
kill that sweet old man.

18 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

18

On the mantel are pictures; NICKI'S Mother and Father, an
older picture of her Dad, ARTHUR, looking young and handsome
in his army uniform (The picture frame has two hand grenades
supporting it, one on each side), next a picture of Nicki
and her Dad at the rifle range, a Marksman ribbon hanging on
it and finally a picture of Nicki playing soccer as a young
girl.

An older, stockier, ARTHUR sits at the head of the dining
room table playing solitaire.

NICKI, carrying two arm loads of groceries lets herself in
the front door.

NICKI
Hi PaPa!

She walks over to the dinner table and puts down the
groceries.

ARTHUR
Long time no see, Princess.

NICKI
Sorry.

She kisses him on the cheek, then looks over the cards and
plays the red ten on the black Jack.

ARTHUR
Thanks.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

I wish you'd call me if you're going to be gone two days. I worry, Pam.

NICKI

Nicole. I want to be called Nicole or Nicki. Not "Pam" it sounds like a toilet bowl cleaner or worse, a meat product.

ARTHUR

Your mother picked "Pamela".

NICKI

I have to change.

She starts down the hall.

ARTHUR

You're going out again!

NICKI

I got to dance.

She dances into her bedroom.

19 INT. NICKI BEDROOM - DAY

19

Her room is pink and lacy with lots of dolls stuffed on the shelves, but no teddy bears.

NICKI enters and slips out of her jeans and tee shirt.

ARTHUR (O.S.)

You coming home for your birthday?

NICKI pauses with a sad thought.

NICKI

I wish Mom were here to bake my cake.

ARTHUR (O.S.)

I'll do it, Princess. I have her recipe. Lemon cake, with pink icing...

NICKI

(Whispers)

...Oh, and colored sprinkles.

Nicki wipes away a tear before it can ruin her make up

ARTHUR (O.S.)

...Oh, and colored sprinkles...

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: 19

Nicki smiles and wiggles into a short, tight, red sequined mini-cocktail dress.

20 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - DAY 20

ARTHUR also misty eyed.

ARTHUR

...I hope I can get all twenty candles on it.

NICKI (O.S.)

Yeah, I'm getting old!

ARTHUR

Too old to be running around. It's time to put away your toys and start thinking of your future, making plans. Remember that nice boy, Johnny, I hear he's doing great at the junior...

NICKI walks out of the hall.

NICKI

Don't start, PaPa...Please!

She swirls around, modeling the dress.

NICKI (CONT'D)

You like?

ARTHUR

I hate!

NICKI

Then I look sensational.

She kisses him on the cheek and starts towards the door.

ARTHUR

Wait. I almost forgot...

Arthur rolls from behind the dinner table, revealing that he is in a wheelchair, He takes a catalogue and letter from the kitchen counter and holds it out to Nicki.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

...I got these for you.

Nicki takes the mail without looking at it.

NICKI

Bye, PaPa!

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

ARTHUR

At least look them over.

Nicki exits. Arthur finishes going through the cards and loses the solitaire game. He scoops up the cards and re-shuffles them.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Damn.

21 EXT. ARTHUR'S LITTLE TRACT HOUSE - EVENING

21

On the way to her convertible NICKI runs into COREY, the next door neighbors six year old son. Corey is carrying a toy.

NICKI

Hi Corey, what do you have there?

Corey holds up a Sing-a-long, a toy microphone that lets kids broadcast over a regular AM radio.

COREY

Microphone.

NICKI

You going to sing rock and roll or country?

COREY

Not for singing. For bugging my sisters room.

He walks off. NICKI smiles after Corey, then she gets into her car and fans through the mail.

Its just a catalogue for the local junior college and a application for the High School Equivalence Test. She tosses them onto the passengers seat.

22 INT. POLICE BRIEFING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

22

JOEY AYALA'S picture is on the computer screen. Joey is dressed in a policeman's uniform.

DETECTIVE CHONG, THREE UNIFORMED COPS, JASON and KEITH crowd around the monitor.

DET. CHONG

...And remember...

(He bangs on the monitor)

...this one is ours.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

He CLICKS the mouse and the picture on the screen changes to a three story building with a brightly lit lobby.

DET. CHONG (CONT'D)

...This is our objective, the top floor. If everyone does their job, no one gets hurt. We roll in an hour.

Everyone heads for the exit. Detective Chong joins JASON & KEITH as they exit.

DET. CHONG (CONT'D)

Anything new on Jimmy's crew?

JASON

Not yet, but he'll screw up sooner or later.

KEITH

And when he does, we'll be watching.

23 EXT. THREE STORY BUILDING - NIGHT

23

An old Cadillac limo and a crew car park in front.

24 INT. THE LIMO - NIGHT

24

JIMMY, NICKI, KIM and DOUGHBOY sit in the back while MAX drives the limo. KIM rolls down the window and looks out.

KIM

This ain't the club?

JIMMY

We got to give somebody the finger.

All the men laugh as they pile out of the car.

NICKI

You know I don't like to be around when you're doing business.

JIMMY

Yeah, but you like to powder your nose, so just shut up and wait here.

He exits the Limo. Nicki finishes her drink and makes another.

KIM

Slow down, you're getting drunk.

25 EXT. THREE STORY BUILDING - NIGHT 25

JIMMY and HIS CREW discreetly take a shotgun and various hand guns from the Limo's trunk and hide them as best they can under their clothes. They enter the brightly lit lobby.

There is a brief conference with the CHINESE GUARD, then JIMMY hands him a envelope. The guard checks to make sure its full of cash, then he exits the lobby and runs down the street.

Jimmy and the crew step into the elevator.

26 INT. THIRD FLOOR MARTIAL ARTS LOFT - NIGHT 26

MR. WANG, dressed in an expensive suit, sits at a table in the back of the loft, TWO COLOMBIAN DRUG DEALERS sit next to him.

Around them, THREE heavily tattooed BOXERS practice the martial arts, hand to hand, with nimchuks, with swords, with stars.

Mr. Wang is checking a briefcase full of cocaine while the Colombians inventory a briefcase full of cash. They look up at:

DING!

The floor indicator over the elevator door lights up. The door opens and JIMMY and his CREW step out. MAX leans against the elevator door, preventing them from closing.

Jimmy looks over the room.

All the BOXERS stop practicing and stare back at Jimmy and his gang.

ONE BOXER steps forward and does a nimchuks routine, trying to impress Jimmy and the gang.

Unimpressed, Jimmy and his gang stroll into the Loft, leaving MAX at the elevator, guarding their rear.

MR. WANG

It is customary to be invited...

JIMMY

Yeah, well its our custom to high five!

He slaps Doughboys hand, the rest of the Crew exchange high - Fives.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED: 26

FIRST COLOMBIAN
What's this about?

Jimmy SNAPS his fingers. Doughboy pulls a folded handkerchief from his pocket and hands it to Jimmy.

27 INT. LIMO - NIGHT 27

NICKI taps an empty vial of coke on a mirror while KIM searches in her purse.

NICKI
Not even a taste left, you got any?

KIM
Nope, we'll have to wait for the guys to get back.

Nicki licks the mirror clean and finishes her drink, but is still unsatisfied.

NICKI
Well, I'm not waiting...

She gets out of the car before Kim can stop her. Kim rolls down the window and calls after her.

KIM
Get back here...You're drunk.

Nicki waves for Kim to wait and stumbles across the street. A couple of unmarked police sedans pull slowly around the corner

28 INT. LOBBY - NIGHT 28

NICKI staggers in and pushes the button for the elevator, nothing happens. She reluctantly opens the door marked "stairs" and starts climbing.

29 INT. THIRD FLOOR LOFT - NIGHT 29

MR. WANG uses his fan to carefully unfold the handkerchief, revealing JOEY'S finger, the distinctive ring still on it.

MR. WANG
What is the meaning of this?

JIMMY
That's Joey's finger.

MR. WANG
So I see.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

JIMMY

Joey came to me, claimed he was unhappy here. No chance for promotion. He said he could make me lots of money, if I made him my Number two.

Mr. Wang looks nervous.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

I agreed and he told me that you would be doing "business" tonight...

Jimmy casually closes the suitcases. The Colombians reach inside their suit jackets, going for their guns. Mr. Wang motions for them to wait, then waves his fan at Joey's finger.

MR. WANG

And this is how you rewarded Joey.

JIMMY

Yesterday he was your problem, tomorrow he'd have been my problem, now he's nobodies problem.

MR. WANG

Thank you for solving my problem. Now you may leave.

JIMMY

Not yet, first I figure you owe me for solving your problem... those should just about cover it.

DOUGHBOY takes the two briefcases off the table, casually giving one to another CREW MEMBER.

The Boxers reach for their handguns. Jimmy pulls out his shotgun and his crew pull their handguns. The stand off lasts a moment.

MR. WANG

You can not leave with my drugs or their money.

The Boxer closet to Jimmy attacks, blocking the shotgun and knocking the barrel towards the ceiling causing Jimmy to fire the shotgun at the fluorescent ceiling lights.

BOOM!

Sparks flash from the light fixture then the room goes dark, except for the continuing sparks and CRACKLING from the shorted out light fixtures.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (2) 29

BOOM!

In the foreground Jimmy fires the shotgun and the flash lights the scene. The boxers and the Columbians are drawing and aiming their hand guns at Jimmy and his crew, who are backing towards the elevator. Blackness, except for the occasional sparks.

30 INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT 30

NICKI stops climbing the stairs and listens.

BOOM! BANG! BANG!

NICKI

Fuck this.

She turns and heads back down the stairs.

31 EXT. THREE STORY BUILDING - NIGHT 31

(Muffled) BANG! BOOM! BOOM! BANG!

Muzzle flashes light up the top floor. Down on the street KEITH, JASON, DET. CHONG and THREE POLICEMEN rush out of the SEDAN's, past the Limo and into the lobby.

Jason, Keith, Det. Chong and one cop run up the stairs while the last two policemen station themselves by the elevator.

32 INT. THIRD FLOOR LOFT - NIGHT 32

Sparks from the light fixture silhouette JIMMY as he cocks the shotgun.

BOOM!

The muzzle flash lights the scene. The BOXERS dive for cover, MR. WANG and the COLOMBIANS hide behind the table. Jimmy and his Crew back rapidly into the elevator

Then the elevator doors close leaving blackness and silence, except for the sparks and CRACKLING from the light fixtures.

33 INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT 33

NICKI runs down the stairs and into JASON, KEITH, DET. CHONG AND COP, all with their guns drawn.

ALL COPS

Freeze! Don't move! Hands up!

NICKI

Damn! You guys know where the bathroom is?

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

KEITH

Looking to powder your nose, Sweet cheeks?

She puts up her hands.

34 INT. LOBBY - NIGHT

34

DING!

The TWO POLICEMEN turn to face the elevator, its doors start to open. The policemen start to draw their revolvers.

JIMMY and his CREW are surprised by the cops, who level their guns on the gang.

COP # 1

HANDS UP!

JIMMY levels his shotgun.

JIMMY

You put your hands up.

The rest of the crew cock their weapons. The stand off last a moment then a WOMAN strolls in chatting on her cell phone. She suddenly notices that everyone around her has a gun.

WOMAN

(to cell phone)

I'll call you back.

(to everyone)

Doctor Johnson's office?

MAX shoves her into the cops.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

(Screams)

The Cops instinctively raise their weapons and catch the Woman. Meanwhile, Jimmy and his Crew run out. It takes the Cops a moment to put the Hysterical Woman safely behind them, then they aim their handguns at the fleeing Crew,

35 INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

35

JASON finishes handcuffing NICKI, while everyone anxiously listens to the SOUND OF GUN SHOTS from downstairs.

DET. CHONG

Watch her. Jason, Keith, with me.

DET. CHONG, JASON and KEITH run downstairs, leaving the COP watching Nicki.

36 EXT. THE LIMO - NIGHT 36

BANG! BANG! BANG!!

Muzzle flashes light the night as JIMMY, MAX, and DOUGHBOY pile into the Limo and speed off. Behind them, the rest of the CREW jump into their car and follow the limo.

37 EXT. THREE STORY BUILDING - NIGHT 37

DET. CHONG, JASON AND KEITH run out the stairwell door, joining the two Cops, they rush out of the lobby and look up and down the block.

The Limo and gang cars have already disappeared,

38 INT. LIMO - NIGHT 38

KIM is SCREAMING hysterically. Everyone is trying to talk at once.

JIMMY

Shut up!

MAX slaps KIM. Terrified, she curls up in a corner of the Limo.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Doughboy?

DOUGHBOY holds up the briefcase, opening it to flash the cash.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Good man. The drugs?

MAX

Skinny has it.

JIMMY

Where's Nicki?

KIM

She...She went to get you.

JIMMY

Stupid bitch.

39 EXT. LIMO - NIGHT 39

An ambulance, going in the opposite direction, speeds past the Limo and gang cars.

40 INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - ON VIDEO MONITOR - NIGHT 40

NICKI is left in the interrogation room by a matronly GUARD. She sits at the table. JASON, KEITH AND DET.CHONG move into the FOREGROUND revealing that they are in a viewing room watching Nicki on the monitor.

DET. CHONG
Let her stew a while longer.

A POLICEWOMAN enters and drops a paper bag on the table.

POLICEWOMAN
They found this at the loft.

She exits. Jason, Keith and Det. Chong look in the bag and look away, sickened.

DET. CHONG
Damn! I better tell the Captain.

Det. Chong exits. On the monitor behind them Nicki is sitting at the table, her head in her arms. She gets up and starts pacing.

41 EXT. LIMOUSINE - NIGHT 41

Jimmy's Limo speeds onto a freeway, followed by the crew car.

42 INT. LIMO - NIGHT 42

Everyone is quiet but tense from the adrenaline.

MAX
Back to the crib, Jimmy?

JIMMY
Yes...No they'll be watching it.

KIM
What about Nicole?

JIMMY
What about her?

DOUGHBOY
Cops got her for sure.

KIM
Maybe not, maybe she got away.

JIMMY
Yeah, maybe.

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED: 42

He flips open his cell phone and starts dialing.

43 INT. OBSERVATION - ON VIDEO MONITOR - NIGHT 43

NICKI sits, drumming her fingers on the table. JASON and KEITH watch her on the monitor. The silence is broken by the BUZZING of a cell phone. Jason and Keith check their cell phones.

KEITH

Not me.

JASON

Me neither.

Keith rummages through Nicki's purse and pulls out her BUZZING cell phone. He grabs the desk phone and dials operator.

KEITH

Trace this call, OK?

He reads the number off Nicki's cell.

KEITH (CONT'D)

...818-555-1595...

(hangs up desk phone,
answers cell phone)

...Hello? Who's this?... This is police Detective Keith Colston. I know it's you Jimmy, we got your girl and she's talking, telling us all your nasty secrets. Is it true about the size of your pecker...? Hello ... Hello ...he must of hung up. Do you think I offended the Dirt bag.

Keith flips the cell phone closed. The desk phone RINGS and Keith answers it.

KEITH (CONT'D)

Yes? I understand.,.

He hangs up the desk phone.

KEITH (CONT'D)

...No trace. He could be anywhere.

NICKI is banging on the door.

NICKI

I WANT A LAWYER! DO YOU HEAR ME! I GOT THE RIGHT TO A PHONE CALL AND LAWYER! CAN ANYONE FUCKING HEAR ME!

44 INT. LIMO - NIGHT 44

There is a heated argument, KIM believes Nicki won't talk, everyone else thinks she'll sing like a canary.

JIMMY is pouring himself a drink.

JIMMY
SHUT UP! Nicki won't talk, she knows better. That asshole cop was just bluffing.

DOUGHBOY
So what we do, Jimmy

JIMMY
Lay low and wait.

KIM
You can drop me anywhere.

JIMMY
You're with us for the duration, Babe!

MAX
I'll take care of her.

Jimmy nods. Kim is too scared to argue.

45 EXT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - NIGHT 45

The Limo and crew car pull up and JIMMY, KIM, MAX, DOUGHBOY and the REST OF THE CREW pile out of the cars and into the small house. Max keeps his arm tightly around Kim's waist as they walk in.

46 INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - ON VIDEO MONITOR - NIGHT 46

NICKI is pacing the room, circling the table. She stops at the door and bangs on it.

NICKI
HEY! I GOT TO GO TO THE BATHROOM!
YOU WANT ME TO PEE IN MY FUCKING
PANTIES!

JASON and KEITH stir from where they have been watching the monitor.

KEITH
I think she's ready.

JASON
Lets do it.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

46

They exit the observation room, Keith carrying Nicki's file and the paper bag, in a moment they can be seen on the monitor enter the interrogation room.

NICKI

Well, it's about time, why are you holding me?

KEITH

Have a seat, Pamela.

47 INT. INTERROGATION ROOM — NIGHT

47

JASON holds a chair out for her, she is annoyed at being called "Pamela".

NICKI

I demand my phone call, and don't call me...

Keith shoves her into the seat.

KEITH

Sit down!

NICKI

Hey?

JASON

We have a few questions, I know you want to cooperate with the police, ah...

He checks the file.

JASON (CONT'D)

...Pamela.

NICKI

Nicole. Everyone calls me Nicole or Nicki, and I want a lawyer.

KEITH

I told you this Bimbo was too stupid to know what was good for her. Let's just book her.

NICKI

Book me? Book me for what? Looking for the bathroom?

Keith gets in her face.

KEITH

We have these family snap shots...
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED:

47

Keith grabs some pictures from Nicki's file and holds them out in front of her.

She sees surveillance photos of her and JIMMY and the rest of the gang.

KEITH (CONT'D)

...We know you're this scum bags
latest squeeze...

(He points to a picture
of Jimmy)

...so we know you're in his crew,
maybe even have the gang totem
tattooed on the bottom of your feet.
Since you were apprehended at the
scene we can charge you with murder.

NICKI

I didn't murder anyone.

Keith whispers in her ear.

KEITH

It don't work that way, Babe. The
way the jury will see it, you were
at the scene and you're a known gang
member therefore you're a killer.
Twenty-five to life, like that!

He snaps his fingers in her ear.

NICKI

I want to talk to an attorney, give
me my phone call.

Keith jumps up slamming his chair into the wall

KEITH

I'm done with this coke whore...

Nicki glares back at Keith, she hates being called a coke
whore.

KEITH (CONT'D)

...I say book her and let her go
cold turkey in county.

He walks around behind her.

JASON

Look Nicole, we would much rather
have Jimmy then you, all we want is
your cooperation...

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED: (2)

47

NICKI

You don't understand, he'd kill me.

JASON

Your choice is simple, protect him and go to jail for a very long time or turn states evidence, join our witness protection program, and I will personally guarantee your safety.

NICKI

I talk and I can leave?

JASON

It's not that simple.

NICKI

But I got to get out of here, I got to...I just can't go to jail.

Keith leans over and whispers in her other ear.

KEITH

Starting to get a little strung out, Buttercup. Sweaty palms, tongue dry, hard to think of any thing else?

Nicki ignores Keith and tries to deal with Jason.

NICKI

If I talk you'll...you know, help me out?

JASON

I'll help you kick and I'll keep you safe, but no drugs.

48 INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - ON VIDEO MONITOR - CONTINUOUS

48

KEITH

You're going cold turkey, Pamela. I say toss her in county for the night, between the dikes and the D.T.'s she'll be begging to deal by the morning.

DET. CHONG walks into the viewing room and watches on the monitor as JASON and Keith work on Nicki.

JASON

I'd hate to see a nice girl like you go to county, but...

He shrugs. NICKI looks around, desperate for help, but there is none.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

48

NICKI

I want all charges against me dropped
and I want protection, lots of
protection.

Det. Chong picks up the desk phone and dials. It RINGS in
interrogation and Keith answers it.

DET. CHONG

Find out everything she knows. We
move her in the morning.

Keith hangs up the phone and nods at Jason.

JASON

You co-operate and we'll do right by
you. You can start by I.D.ing these
pictures.

Jason holds up a picture of Doughboy. Nicki reluctantly
looks at the picture. Keith moves back behind Nicki.

NICKI

That's...I don't know his real name,
everyone just calls him Doughboy.
He's kind of slow.

Jason holds up a picture of Joey.

JASON

Ever see this guy?

Nicki stares at the picture, then looks from Keith to Jason,
now she's so scared she starts to tremble.

NICKI

I, ah, I don't know his name.

Keith dumps the contents of the paper bag in front of Nicki.

JOEY's finger, in a plastic baggy, spills onto the table.

Nicki can't look at it, she turns her face way, but Keith
grabs her head and makes her look.

KEITH

Look at it, Sweetpea! It belongs to
this guy...

He grabs JOEY's picture and waves it in Nicki's face. She
starts to cry.

KEITH (CONT'D)

His name is Joey. He has a wife and
two kids. He was a cop and my friend.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED: (2)

48

NICKI

I'm sorry, I...couldn't...He...

She breaks down.

JASON

Enough Keith...

Jason hands Nicki a handkerchief while Keith walks around the table, sits next to Jason and puts JOEY's finger back into the paper bag.

JASON (CONT'D)

Tell us about it, Nicole, and don't leave anything out.

Nicki looks up, defeated and exhausted.

49 INT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE- NIGHT

49

JIMMY'S cell phone rings and he flips it open. When he sees it's a text message he steps into a less crowded corner of the room and reads the text message:

INSERT CELL PHONE SCREEN

U weren't supos 2 b there. Nky
singing. I tak hr out. My % usual
accout + 50T

*
*
*

He takes a deep breath then throws the phone against the far wall. The room is crowded with his GANG and their WOMAN. They all fall silent at the crash of phone.

JIMMY

The bitch is talking to the cops.

VARIOUS GANG MEMBERS

Oh man! Rato! Round eyed slut!
Putta! Kill her! Punyeta! Bitch!

DOUGHBOY

I liked her.

MAX

Shut up, Stupid!

JIMMY

Leave him alone.

(to everyone)

She's being taken care of.

*

KIM tries to defend Nicki.

(CONTINUED)

49 CONTINUED:

49

KIM
Nicki wouldn't talk. Who says Nicki's
talking?

MAX
Jimmy's got a source.

KIM
Who? Who says Nicki's talking?

MAX
Shut up.

She's too scared to do more.

50 OMITTED
THRU
57

50*
THRU
57

58 OMITTED
AND
59

58*
AND
59

DET. CHONG (O.S.)

*
*

60 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - DAY

60

A modest California ranch home on a quiet rural street.

JASON drives the unmarked sedan into the driveway, KEITH,
JASON & NICKI get out and look the house over.

(CONTINUED)

60 CONTINUED:

60

KEITH
So what do you think?

NICKI
I think I would like a hot shower.

JASON
I think we should get inside.

They head for the front door, which has yellow police line do not cross tape X'd across it.

61 INT. SAFE HOUSE - DAY

61

KEITH, JASON, & NICKI walk in the front door.

KEITH
Shower is that way.

KEITH points. NICKI sniffs.

NICKI
What stinks?

KEITH
Crystal Meth. We busted a Grandmother cooking the stuff in a shed out back.

NICKI
(shaking her head)
The shower?

KEITH
All the way back to the master bedroom then turn right.

She heads through the kitchen.

JASON
I'll check the perimeter. You check supplies.

Jason grabs a knapsack and walks out the front door. KEITH goes straight to the kitchen and looks in the refrigerator,

62 EXT. SIDE OF SAFE HOUSE - DAY

62

JASON, the knapsack on his shoulder, checks the locks on the master bedrooms exterior security door. He takes a burglar alarm security door wedge from the sack and jams it under the door so the door can't be opened and if anyone even tries the wedge will compress and an alarm will sound. Then he moves to a window at the back of the house and looks in.

- 63 INT. SAFE HOUSE BATHROOM - JASON'S P.O.V. - DAY 63
NICKI is getting undressed unaware that JASON is looking in the window. When she turns around to get in the shower she almost catches him.
- 64 EXT. BACK OF SAFE HOUSE - DAY 64
JASON ducks away from the window, embarrassed at almost being caught.
- 65 INT. SAFE HOUSE OFFICE - DAY 65
KEITH looks in, one wall is covered in book, among the books are toys, games and on the floor a wireless toy fire truck.
Keith picks up the toy trucks wireless remote control. He moves the controls and the fire engine rolls towards him.
- KEITH
(smiling)
Decent.
- He puts the remote on the desk and exits.
- 66 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - DAY 66
KEITH enters and rummages through the dresser, taking out folded jeans and a tee shirt. He shakes out the jeans and they are huge. Smiling he KNOCKS on the bathroom door.
- KEITH
These should do, I hope they fit,
Sunshine.
- 67 INT. BATHROOM - DAY 67
NICKI is in the shower. The door opens a crack and Keith sticks the clothing in.
- 68 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - DAY 68
JASON finishes his security inspection and goes to the car, taking two gym bags from the trunk.
- 69 INT. BATHROOM - DAY 69
NICKI steps out of the shower and wipes the fog off the bathroom mirror. In the mirror she spots KEITH peeking through a crack in the bathroom door. She smiles with an idea.

70 INT. MASTER BEDROOM - DAY 70

KEITH is startled by the noise of the FRONT DOOR OPENING and CLOSING. He quickly and quietly closes the bathroom door and hurries out of the master bedroom.

71 INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY 71

JASON is closing the living room drapes as KEITH enters

KEITH
The fridge is empty, no bread, some
canned goods and definitely no
munchies.

NICKI enters looking fresh scrubbed, her hair wrapped up in a towel and wearing oversized jeans and a baggy tee shirt.

JASON
I'm off for supplies, any requests.

KEITH
Chips, ice-cream and coffee.

NICKI
I need my make up and purse and
something better than this to wear.

KEITH
I got your stuff.

He rummages through one of the gym bags on the sofa, finding her purse. Jason exits as Keith tosses Nicki her purse, she catches it, looking relieved.

KEITH (CONT'D)
Well, its just you and me, toots.

She ignores him and walks out. He watches her, making sure she goes back into the master bedrooms' bathroom.

72 INT. BATHROOM - DAY 72

As soon as NICKI enters the bathroom she locks the door and quickly dumps her purse out on the counter.

She pushes the cosmetics and personal items aside, turns the purse inside out and scrapes the lining and the inside pockets. Using a match book she scrapes the lint and dust into a pile and sorts out any white powder residue she can find. It isn't much but she eagerly snorts it up.

It isn't enough to satisfy her habit. She rummages through the medicine cabinet, drinking what's left of a bottle of cough syrup, but finds nothing else worth taking, She quickly

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED:

72

puts on her make up, dabs on perfume then looks herself over in the mirror.

No matter how she tucks and pulls at her oversized clothes they still make her look frumpy, until she ties the tee shirt up into a halter top. Satisfied, she steps out of the bathroom.

73 INT. PANELED DEN - DAY

73

KEITH sits on the sofa watching a baseball game.

NICKI steps out of the master bedroom. For a moment she eyes Keith while she re-arranges her top to show more cleavage, then she casually strolls between Keith and the TV.

NICKI
Mind it I join you?

KEITH
If you want.

She sits next to him, then stretches over Keith to reach the remote, pausing to smile seductively up at him as she rubs her breast against his arm. He is a little uncomfortable.

NICKI
You don't mind, do you?

KEITH shrugs. She switches the TV to a ROCK VIDEO.

NICKI (CONT'D)
...I saw you peeking while I was showering.

KEITH
Part of my job is to keep you under surveillance.

NICKI
You looked like you were really enjoying your work...

KEITH
You're just a job, Sweetheart.

She leans in real close.

NICKI
I could be so much more.
(MORE)

Keith raises a questioning eyebrow. She leans closer, exposing more cleavage.

(CONTINUED)

73 CONTINUED:

73

NICKI (CONT'D)
Besides a safe house, this could be
a fun house...

She kisses him. He slides a hand to her breast. She breaks
away from him, holding him back.

NICKI (CONT'D)
...Not so fast, if I'm nice to you,
you have to be nice to me?

KEITH
What do you mean?

NICKI
When I was in high school we had a
saying, "Kids and cops have the best
drugs".

KEITH
Yeah, I've heard the same thing...

He leans over as if to kiss her. Instead, Keith snatches
the T.V. remote from Nicki.

KEITH (CONT'D)
...don't believe it, Sweet Cake.

He pushes her away and uses the remote to switch the TV back
to baseball. Nicki is surprised by the rejection. She
stands.

NICKI
I'm going to bed.

She starts towards the master bedroom, untying the tee shirt
as she goes, Keith follows her.

74 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

74

NICKI collapses on the bed, hugging the pillows. KEITH stands
in the doorway, just watching her.

NICKI
Do you mind, I was up all night
answering your fucking questions and
I have a splitting headache.

KEITH
Get use to it. That's a big part of
going cold turkey. There should be
aspirin in the medicine cabinet,
Sugar Lips.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

74 CONTINUED:

74

He leaves, closing the door. She throws a pillow at the door, then gets up and tries the side door, it opens revealing the screened security door. She tries it, it does not open and a PEIRCING ALARM SOUNDS for a moment then stops when she lets go of the door. Keith opens the bed room door and looks in.

KEITH (CONT'D)

Sorry. That's no way out.

he holds up his hand cuffs.

KEITH (CONT'D)

Do I need these, Honey buns?

NICKI

No.

Disappointed she goes into the bathroom. He smiles and closes the bedroom door.

75 INT. SAFE HOUSE BATHROOM - DAY

75

NICKI enters, takes a bottle of aspirin out of the cabinet, shakes out two pills and puts the bottle back on the empty shelf.

76 INT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY

76

The CREW lounge around, making it with their WOMEN, drinking and eating pizza. JIMMY moves off by himself, flips open his phone and texts:

INSERT CELL PHONE SCREEN

*

50 T cash when U kil hr.

JIMMY pushes "Send" and flips the phone closed.

77 INT. SAFE HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

77

JASON comes in the front door carrying two bags of groceries.

In the den, KEITH stops watching the ball game and joins Jason in the kitchen, helping him put away the groceries..

JASON

Where is she?

KEITH

Big bedroom, getting her beauty sleep.

JASON

You want the night shift?

(CONTINUED)

77 CONTINUED:

77

Keith takes a quarter from his pocket and flips it.

KEITH

Call it.

JASON

Tails!

Keith shows Jason the results.

JASON (CONT'D)

Darn, wake me at eight.

Jason goes down the hall and into the extra bedroom. KEITH goes back to watching the ball game in the den.

78 EXT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY

78

JIMMY, MAX, KIM & DOUGHBOY coming out the small house. Max, his arm still tightly around Kim, almost forces her into the car. Jimmy and Doughboy get into the front and drive off. The next door neighbor LADY stops cleaning up her yard and watches them, something she does not feel right.

79 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - SUNSET

79

All the curtains are closed. The place would look deserted, except for the unmarked sedan parked in front.

80 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - SUNSET

80

The closed curtains make the room dark, except a line of light leaking in under the bedroom door.

The shadow of shoes obstruct the light. The door slowly, silently, opens revealing dark shoes against the bright light from the den. The SHOES walk into the room.

DISTORTED CHEERING SOFTLY OVER:

NICKI is sleeping restlessly, again dreaming of the gang rape.

The light from the den throws the shadow of a man against the bedroom wall. The MAN'S shadow takes out a hypodermic needle.

The Man's hand reaches out and turns Nicki arm so her vein is exposed. The needle is brought close, Nicki murmurs in her sleep.

NICKI

...No...stop.....

(MORE)

The needle pauses, hovering over her vein.

(CONTINUED)

80 CONTINUED:

80

CHEERING OUT.

Nicki half wakes up, rubs her eyes with her other hand and looks up at the unseen man.

NICKI'S P.O.V. - SLIGHTLY OUT OF FOCUS The MAN'S dark face is silhouetted against the light pouring in from the den. The face turns away.

NICKI (CONT'D)

What...

She looks down at her arm, fully awake.

NICKI (CONT'D)

...Hey...

She knocks the needle away.

NICKI (CONT'D)

...Stop...

NICKI'S P.O.V. - COMING INTO FOCUS the dark silhouette of a MAN quickly disappears into the bright light pouring from the den, which also disappears as the door is closed.

NICKI (CONT'D)

...AHHHHHHH!

Nicki scrunches up to the head of the bed, grabbing the blankets and pillows for protection.

NICKI (CONT'D)

HELP ME!...HELP!

KEITH rushes through the door. For a moment his silhouette is similar to the unseen man's, then he turns on the light. JASON rushes in, rubbing sleep from his eyes.

KEITH

Shut up already, the neighbors will hear you.

NICKI

He was trying to inject something in me.

Jason sits on the bed next to her.

JASON

Who?

NICKI

I couldn't see him, he was just a silhouette, but he had a needle...

(CONTINUED)

80 CONTINUED: (2)

80

She holds out her arm, Jason takes it and examines it. Keith looks over his shoulder.

JASON
Looks clean to me.

NICKI
Someone was in here...I swear.

KEITH
No way. I've been watching.
There's no one here but us three.
She must have been dreaming, had a
paranoid druggie flashback or a
hallucination.

NICKI
You didn't see anyone?

Jason shakes his head.

KEITH
Probably just a taste of the DT's.

Keith exits.

NICKI
I wasn't dreaming.

JASON
When was the last time you ate?

She shrugs.

JASON (CONT'D)
...Lets get some food in you, you'll
feel better....

She gets up.

NICKI
I have to go...

Nicki goes to the connecting bathroom, pausing at the door.

NICKI (CONT'D)
I wasn't hallucinating.

She goes in and closes the door.

81 INT. paneled den - NIGHT

81

JASON steps into the den where he is joined by KEITH.

(CONTINUED)

81 CONTINUED:

81

KEITH
What do you think?

JASON
You were on guard.

They eye each other suspiciously, then shrug it off as ridiculous.

KEITH
Yeah. Had to be the DT's. But if she thinks it's not safe here, she may try to run.

JASON
I don't want to have to cuff her.

KEITH
Cuff her or watch her. What we can't do is lose her.

Jason reluctantly nods in agreement.

82 INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

82

The door opens and MAX, KIM, JIMMY and DOUGHBOY enter. Jimmy grabs Kim and sits her on the sofa while Max and Doughboy start searching the house.

JIMMY
Have a seat, Kim. We need to talk.

KIM
Sure, Jimmy.

Jimmy sits on the coffee table in front of Kim. He slowly lights up a cigarette, deliberately holding the flame of the lighter close to her face.

JIMMY
What would you do if Nicki called you.

KIM
She's my best friend.

JIMMY
AND WHAT AM I!

He holds Kim's legs closed by squeezing them between his knees. Kim squirms but is held fast. Jimmy takes a long drag on the cigarette.

KIM
Please, Jimmy...
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED:

82

JIMMY taps the cigarette so the hot ash falls between Kim thighs. She squirms but he holds her thighs closed.

KIM (CONT'D)

I'd tell you if she called, I swear.

JIMMY

How do I know you're not lying to me?

KIM

Never, Jimmy, please...

DOUGHBOY walks up behind Kim, suddenly he grabs her, pinning her arms to her sides. JIMMY casually places the filter end of the hot cigarette between Kim thighs.

KIM (CONT'D)

Hey!

She starts to SCREAM but DOUGHBOY silences her by clamping his hand over her mouth. JIMMY holds her legs tightly closed while the cigarette slowly burns down towards her tan thighs. Kim struggles.

JIMMY

Where does Nicki's Dad live?

DOUGHBOY takes his hand from her face.

KIM

I don't know.

JIMMY slaps her, quick...

JIMMY

Yes you do!

KIM

Please...

Kim's eyes go wide with pain as the cigarette's red hot coal burns down and starts to SIZZLE against her leg.

KIM (CONT'D)

Please...

JIMMY

The address.

KM

I can't...he...please...

Jimmy takes the cigarette from between her thighs. Kim sighs with momentary relief.

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED: (2)

82

JIMMY

Did that hurt...

Jimmy takes a long drag from the cigarette.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

...Well, that was nothing...

Jimmy reaches over and pulls down the top of her dress down, almost exposing her breasts. He smiles and slowly puts the cigarette butt first into her cleavage. The glowing coal of the cigarette SIZZLES towards her breasts as smoke curls up to her terrified face. DOUGHBOY has a hard time holding the struggling, panicky girl.

KIM

Oh, God, No please, Jimmy...

JIMMY

Hold her still.

KIM

PLEASE, ...DON'T...NO...O.K! O.K!,
I'll tell you.

She starts to cry. He snatches the cigarette from her cleavage and takes a drag.

JIMMY

Well?

KIM

Five twenty Maple.

Jimmy takes another drag from the cigarette and wipes the tear from Kim's cheek.

JIMMY

Good girl. Max has something for
the pain.

She looks over at Max, who is approaching her with a hypodermic needle.

KIM

No, please, I'd never...

JIMMY

Relax, Kim. It's just a little
Mexican brown. In a minute you'll
thank me.

(MORE)

Doughboy holds out her arm and Max injects the heroin. She stops struggling, her breathing slows and her eyes roll back into her head.

(CONTINUED)

82 CONTINUED: (3)

82

Doughboy lets her go and she slumps on the sofa.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Doesn't that feel better... Doughboy,
get over to five twenty Maple. If
Nicki shows up...

He jerks his thumb across his throat.

DOUGHBOY

But Jimmy...

JIMMY

...No buts. Just do what I say and
I'll get someone to relieve you in
the morning.

MAX

Can I watch Kim.

JIMMY

Sure. I'll be back at the crib.

Max scoops her up, she tries to struggle but is too drugged.
He carries her into the bedroom. Doughboy and Jimmy exit,
turning out the lights.

83 INT. SAFE HOUSE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

83

JASON and KEITH finish their TV dinners, while NICKI nervously
picks at her still full plate. Nicki looks haggard in over
sized clothes, her eyes are bloodshot and her hair stringy.
Sleep hasn't helped her.

JASON

You should eat something.

KEITH

She's jonesing. She don't need food,
she needs sweets. Sugar will take
the edge off, sugar pants.

JASON

It gets easier. The first couple of
days are the roughest, headaches,
paranoia, cravings, lack of
concentration, dreams, look at your
palms, they're sweating...

He holds out her hands. Embarrassed she pulls them away and
wipes them on her pants.

KEITH

How'd you let that creep Jimmy get
you so strung out, Honey?

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED:

83

She pushes the plate away.

NICKI

I'm not your "Honey", or your "Sweetheart", or any other name your pea brain can think up.

KEITH

Hey! I don't have to take lip from some Bimbo. My shift is over. You got the duty, Jay. Wake me in the morning.

He walks out.

She gets up and starts cleaning off the table. Jason helps her.

JASON

He's not that bad, it's the job. Some cops work with so much human garbage they can't help getting their soul dirty.

NICKI

Well I'm not "garbage".

JASON

I know, and down deep he knows. If you're not going to eat at least get some sleep.

NICKI

I'm too scared to sleep.

JASON

I got something that might help.

Jason goes into the living room and rummages through his gym bag. He takes out a bottle of pills, shakes one out and holds the blue and red capsule out to Nicki.

JASON (CONT'D)

Sleeping pill, it'll get you through the night, and don't worry, I'll be on watch all night. No one will bother you.

She joins him, reluctantly taking the pill.

JASON (CONT'D)

A good nights sleep is what you need. Go on, take it.

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED: (2)

83

NICKI

Yeah, maybe your right.

NICKI pops the pill. He walks her into the master bedroom.

84 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM NIGHT

84

NICKI enters and climbs into bed. JASON stands next to her.

KEITH steps into the doorway.

KEITH

If you don't do it, I will.

NICKI

Do what?

JASON

I'm sorry.

He grabs her clinched hand and slaps on a pair of handcuffs.

NICKI

Hey! What are you doing?

She starts to struggle but he quickly finishes handcuffing her to the bedpost. Nicki tugs at the cuffs and realizes it's too late.

JASON

Regulations.

Keith walks off chuckling, Jason goes to the door. Nicki is terrified.

NICKI

Please don't leave me like this.

JASON

Don't worry, I'll be on watch all night. No one will hurt you.

He turns off the lights and closes the door. She angrily jerks at the cuffs, then opens her clinched hand revealing the blue and red sleeping pill.

With her free hand she takes the capsule and hides it under the mattress.

Nicki sits at the head of the bed. She hugs a pillow and watches the door, scared but determined to make it through the night.

85 INT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY 85

Curtains darken the CROWDED room.

JIMMY, a NAKED ASIAN GIRL on his lap, is talking on the phone while around him a joint is passed from COUPLE to COUPLE. The joint is finally passed to JIMMY.

JIMMY

...OK, I'll get Max to relieve you...
Soon.

He hangs up the phone, kisses the girl hard, then pushes her away and gets up. He pulls on a shirt and goes out the door into the glare of the morning sun.

86 EXT. NEXT DOOR TO RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY 86

The neighbor LADY is sitting on her back patio having a cup of coffee and reading the new paper, She looks up and notices Jimmy stretching at the door of the small house next door. She watches him:

87 EXT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY 87

JIMMY walks down the driveway, gets into the crew car and drives off.

88 EXT. NEXT DOOR TO RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY 88

The Lady looks back down at her newspaper and sees:

INSERT: NEWSPAPER ARTICLE FEATURING JIMMY

The headline reads, "Wanted for murder" and next to the article is a mugshot of Jimmy, looking a few years younger

The Lady flips open her cell phone and dials.

MANAGER

Hello, police!

89 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - DAY 89

The drapes are closed, darkening the room.

NICKI is sleeping, still hugging a pillow at the head of the bed.

In the door, JASON watches her, KEITH steps up behind him

KEITH

What's up?

(CONTINUED)

89 CONTINUED:

89

JASON

Look at her, beautiful, fresh,
innocent. She could have any man
she wanted.

KEITH

Yeah, I feel it in the old dip stick
too.

JASON

You got the soul of a romantic.

JASON walks off.

KEITH

I know, it's the Italian in me.

He follows Jason into the den.

90 EXT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY

90

A POLICE CAR and a UNMARKED SEDAN drive up the drive way and park. DETECTIVE CHONG gets out of the sedan and for a moment he chats across the fence with the neighbor lady. She points at the small house, then she hurries back into her house. Chong goes over to the squad car and talks with the COP who is driving, they watch the little house.

POLICE CAR RADIO

(CRACKLE)

Back up is on the way.

Over at the front window of the converted garage a EYE peeks through a crack in the curtains.

91 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BATHROOM - DAY

91

A MAN'S HAND opens the medicine cabinet and places a small white envelope, full of what appears to be cocaine, behind the aspirin bottle. The hand quietly closes the medicine cabinet and a shape moves across the mirror, but there isn't enough detail to tell who it is.

92 INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - DAY

92

JIMMY finishes reading a text message then flips the cell phone closed, behind him, MAX & KIM are sprawled on the messy bed, still asleep.

JIMMY

(to himself)

You'll see the cash when I read her
obituary.

(MORE)

He walks back into the bedroom and shakes Max.

(CONTINUED)

92 CONTINUED:

92

JIMMY (CONT'D)
Max...Max, get up. You have to
relieve Doughboy. And you...

Jimmy shakes Kim.

JIMMY (CONT'D)
...make me some breakfast. Come on,
get up.

Max sits up, rubbing his eyes. Kim moans.

93 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

93

KEITH is talking an the phone.

KEITH
...Good, I hope he gets him...Yes
Sir...Tell him we checked in and ask
him to call and let us know what
happens...

NICKI (O.S.)
HEY! ANYONE OUT THERE! HELLLLOOOOO!
I GOT TO PEEEEEEEEEE!

KEITH
...Duty calls, we'll check in again
tonight, Bye.

He hangs up and goes down the hall.

94 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

94

NICKI is sitting up, tugging at the handcuffs. KEITH enters.

KEITH
This can't be the first time you've
been handcuffed to a bed.

He chuckles at his own joke. Nicki flips him the finger.
Keith laughs and walks out.

NICKI
Hey? I got to go! YOU HEAR ME?!

95 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

95

KEITH walks in, sits and turns on the T.V.. JASON strolls
in the front door carrying a large paper bag and puts it on
the kitchen counter.

NICKI (O.S.)
AAAAAH!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

95 CONTINUED:

95

NICKI (O.S.) (CONT'D)
I'M GOING TO KEEP SCREAMING UNTIL
YOU LET ME GO. I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR
ME, I GOT TO GO! (Ad-LIB, CONT.)

JASON
I better let her go before the
neighbors complain.

KEITH
Better yet, we should gag her!

JASON
She's our witness, not our prisoner.

Jason walks down the hall.

96 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

96

NICKI stops YELLING as soon as JASON enters.

JASON
You're getting on my partners nerves.

He uncuffs her.

NICKI
He's trying to kill me. He wants my
bladder to burst.

She rushes into the connecting bathroom. JASON leans next
to the bathroom door.

JASON
You'll feel better after a nice hot
shower.

She slams the door in his face.

97 INT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY

97

A HAND moves the kitchen curtain away from the window
revealing: TWO UNIFORMED COPS positioning themselves behind
the house, cutting off their escape.

TOMMY, the oldest gang member, closes the curtain and walks
out of the kitchen. He crosses the livingroom to the front
window and peeks out the curtains. Around him the REST OF
THE CREW are getting dressed and loading weapons. Tommy
grabs the phone and dials.

98 INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - DAY

98

JIMMY sits at the kitchen table eating breakfast while KIM,
in a robe, groggily cleans up.

(CONTINUED)

98 CONTINUED: 98

CELL PHONE BEEPS

Jimmy answers it.

JIMMY

What? ...Shit! ...No, man, don't do
it... I'll arrange bail ...Don't
risk it ...You hearing
me?...Tommy?!...fuck! FUCK!

He throws the phone across the room, startling Kim.

99 EXT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY 99

Out in the driveway, DETECTIVE CHONG looks around to make sure everyone is in place, The TWO COPS on either side of the small house's front door give him the thumbs up sign. Satisfied that all is ready, he flips open his cell phone.

100 INT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY 100

THE PHONE RINGS. One of the GIRLS grab it and hand it to TOMMY.

DET. CHONG (O.S.)

(Phone Filtered)

This is Detective Chong. We have
you surrounded. We can do this the
hard way or the easy way, You choose.

Tommy looks around the crowded room.

The GIRLS and youngest CREW MEMBERS are afraid.

TOMMY

The easy way. We got kids in here.

101 EXT. RURAL CONVERTED GARAGE - DAY 101

THE GIRLS & SMALLEST CREW MEMBERS start filing out of the house with their hands up. They are grabbed by COPS # 1 & 2, who are positioned on either side of the door. The Gang members are pushed along to COPS # 3 & 4 who frisk and cuff them. After SIX CREW MEMBERS exit they stop coming out. Cop # 1 turns to the last gang member out, who is still being frisked.

COP # 1

You the last?

LAST GANG MEMBER

Yeah.

(MORE)

Cop # 1 steps into the doorway. TOMMY'S foot flashes out, kicking twice.

(CONTINUED)

101 CONTINUED:

101

The first kick sends the cop's gun flying, the second kick catches the cop in the head. Surprised and dazed, Cop # 1 looks over at the Last Gang Member, now handcuffed.

LAST GANG MEMBER (CONT'D)

So I lied. What you gonna do? Arrest me!

Again, Tommy's foot flashes out, catching the cop on the other side of his head and knocking him out. He collapses. Cop # 3 rushes up, stopping next to the open door. Cop # 2 on the other side nods to Cop # 3, they cock their weapons, point them into the room and step into the door way. Tommy uses a judo move to grab each Cop's gun hand and flip them both into the motel room.

102 INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

102

TOMMY flips COPS # 2 & 3 into the room, they land hard on their backs. Tommy tosses their revolvers into the bathroom.

The Cops regain their feet and attack Tommy, who again uses judo to flip them across the room.

TWO MORE POLICE rush into the room. For a minute Tommy is able to toss them all around with his martial arts skill, then the Cops back off and circle him.

COP 2

Watch his hands, he's tricky. Swarm him! NOW!

All four cops rush him, overpowering and tackling him.

When they get up and step back Tommy struggles to his feet, His hands securely handcuffed behind his back.

COP # 3

Not so tough now.

Tommy smiles and does a flip, slipping the cuffs under his legs and landing in front of Cop Number # 3 with his hands in front of him. He uses a judo throw to toss the surprised Cop # 3 into the other surprised cops.

Again Tommy holds his own, tossing the cops around despite his cuffs. Cop # 4 pulls a gun.

COP # 4

HOLD IT!

Tommy stops fighting and faces Cop # 4. Tommy smiles and flips him the finger.

Det. Chong enters and pulls his revolver.

(CONTINUED)

102 CONTINUED:

102

DET. CHONG

Enough!

He aims at Tommy.

DET. CHONG

You can walk out or we can carry
you out... quietly.

Tommy does another flip, landing on his feet with his hands cuffed behind his back again. The other cops regain their feet and escort Tommy out.

103 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN (DINING NOOK) - DAY

103

NICKI, JASON, and KEITH are silently finishing lunch.

JASON

Ready for some desert?

NICKI

Can I go to my room?

JASON

Sure.

Nicki walks out.

Jason goes into the kitchen and comes out carrying the paper bag he came home with. He walks towards the master bedroom.

KEITH

Hey, who's going to do the dishes.

104 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

104

NICKI is staring into the dresser mirror, miserable and near tears. When JASON steps into the doorway, she quickly wipes her eyes and sits on the bed.

NICKI

I ain't doing the dishes!

Jason takes the bag from behind his back, reaches in and takes out a cup cake with a candle in it. He enters and hands it to her.

JASON

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! And this is just
your first birthday surprise.

He lights the candle, then sits on the dresser across from her. Nicki is surprised.

(CONTINUED)

104 CONTINUED:

104

NICKI

How'd you know?

JASON

Your driver's license. Make a wish.

Nicki closes her eyes for a moment then blows out the candle.

NICKI

Thanks.

He takes a ribbon wrapped shoe box from the bag and hands it to her.

JASON

Surprise! I have a present for you,
the police shrink recommended it.

For a moment she is surprised, then startled when the box wiggles. She drops the box into her lap.

NICKI

It moved!

JASON

Go on, open it.

She pulls off the ribbon and before she can open it a kitten pokes its head from under the lid.

NICKI

Oh! Look at her! She's adorable!

NICKI holds the kitten up, then cuddles it.

NICKI (CONT'D)

...look at those beautiful eyes.
She's gorgeous.

JASON

She was caged up to. I figured you
two had a lot in common.

Nicki leans over and gives him a quick kiss.

NICKI

Thank you.

JASON

Yeah.

He starts to leave.

(CONTINUED)

104 CONTINUED: (2)

104

NICKI

Detective, do you want to know what I wished for?

JASON

Just call me Jay, and if you tell me your wish it won't come true.

NICKI

Without your help, it can't come true, I wished I could call my Pa...Dad. He's expecting me home tonight, he'll worry.

Jason ponders a moment.

JASON

OK, but I have to listen in and not even a hint about our location.

NICKI

Agreed!

JASON

Come on.

They exit, Nicki carrying the kitten.

105 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - DAY

105

KEITH watches JASON and NICKI enter. He notices the kitten in her arms.

KEITH

Well, look at the mangy pussy...

JASON

Shut up, Keith...

Jason picks up the phone and turns to Nicki.

JASON (CONT'D)

...Number?

106 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

106

THE PHONE RINGS. ARTHUR sits at the dinner table finishing icing Nicki's birthday cake, he answers the phone.

ARTHUR

Hello! Happy Birthday, Honey...You coming home? ...You promised.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

106 CONTINUED:

106

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

I baked your favorite cake... You're not in any trouble... I bet you were surprised... No, No, I understand... We can do your cake when you get back... Of course I still love you...

107 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

107

NICKI talks on the phone. JASON stands next to her listening in.

NICKI

I love you too, PaPa...I really wish I could be with you, but, how often does a girl get a free weekend in Hawaii... I'll get you a dozen tee shirts... I really miss you... No, I'm not crying...

She hates lying to him, but can't bring herself to tell him the truth.

108 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

108

ARTHUR talks on the phone.

ARTHUR

...Don't worry, I'll be Ok. You just have a good time...Miss you too...Bye.

He hangs up the phone. He looks back at the cake but no longer has the heart to finish icing it.

109 EXT. ARTHUR'S HOUSE - DAY

109

MAX sits in his car watching the house and practicing with his butterfly knife.

110 INT. SAFE HOUSE paneled DEN - DAY

110

KEITH is on the phone. JASON and NICKI are back in the kitchen trying to do the dishes around the hyper curious kitten.

KEITH

That's still good news, Chief... OK, we'll check in the morning... I'll tell them. Bye, Sir.

He hangs up and goes into the kitchen.

111 INT. SAFE HOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

111

JASON and NICKI are laughing and decorating the kitten with soap suds beard, mustache and hat. KEITH enters.

KEITH

I thought you were cleaning up.

Nicki holds up the white bearded kitten,

NICKI

See! Santa Paws!

Jason and Nicki dissolve into laughter.

JASON

No. No! Saint NickalPuss!

NICKI

Wait!...

She wipes off the suds beard and grabs a handful of suds from the sink and makes a white suds strip down the kittens back.

NICKI (CONT'D)

...Pepe Le Puss!

More laughter from Jason and Nicki.

KEITH

Enough.

JASON

Lighten up.

KEITH

You working here or playing with her pussy?

JASON

Hey! My shift doesn't start for an hour.

Nicki wipes off the kitten, cuddles it in a dry dish towel, and goes into the den.

JASON (CONT'D)

That wasn't necessary.

Jason and Keith stalk after her.

112 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - DAY

112

NICKI, JASON & KEITH enter, Nicki is still drying the kitten.

(CONTINUED)

112 CONTINUED:

112

KEITH

Detective Chong said they busted Jimmy's crib and rounded up most of his crew.

NICKI

Then its over? I can go home?

KEITH

No. He didn't get Jimmy. He thinks a few others are still at large.

Nicki is disappointed.

NICKI

Suddenly I have a splitting headache.

Nicki walks towards the master bed room, followed by JASON. KEITH watches smiling, then turns on the ball game.

113 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

113

NICKI, who is still carrying the kitten, enters and goes into the little bathroom. JASON waits by the bathroom door.

JASON

We got his gang. It won't be long till we catch Jimmy and then you can go home.

She closes the bathroom door on him, their moment is over.

114 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BATHROOM - DAY

114

NICKI puts the kitten on the counter and opens the medicine cabinet. When she takes out the aspirin bottle, a small white paper envelope that is leaning against the bottle, falls flat on the shelf.

NICKI can't help noticing the envelope. She picks it up and examines it. "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" is handwritten on the envelope, it holds about a quarter gram of cocaine, Excited, she opens the envelope and sets it on the counter.

She looks at herself in the mirror, make up in need of repair, hair messed. She smiles in anticipation, then she looks back down at the coke and her smiles vanishes, With a sigh she carefully spills the coke onto the counter, uses the edge of the envelope to form the powder into lines, then rolls the envelope into a tube and leans over to snort.

The curious kitten pokes it nose in and Nicki brushes the cat away.

(CONTINUED)

114 CONTINUED:

114

NICKI

No. It's not good for you....

She glances up and sees her reflection in the mirror. She is sweating with anticipation. Her hands start to shake so bad she can't get the tube in her nose. Nicki straightens up, grabs a tissue and wipes away her lipstick, then takes another good look at herself.

PAN OFF NICKI ONTO THE MIRROR. Instead of her reflection, Nicki sees JOHNNY, the high school football star. He's offering her the teddy bear.

The reflection dissolves into JIMMY, leering over a full coke spoon.

Finally the reflection disappears and the shadow of a man holding a hypodermic needle appears then fades away.

PAN OFF THE MIRROR ONTO NICKI

She is torn between her cravings and her fears. She splashes water in her face and towels off her make up. Nicki leans close to the mirror so she can get a good look at herself, clean of drugs and make up for the first time.

JASON (O.S.)

You going to be long?

She makes a decision.

NICKI

Just fixing myself up...

She swipes her hand across the counter, knocking the coke to the floor.

The envelope and most of the coke falls into the pretty plastic trash can but some powder spills onto the tile floor Nicki smiles at herself in the mirror, takes two aspirin and goes to work on her make up.

115 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

115

JASON listens at the bathroom door, stepping back as NICKI steps out. A little lipstick, blush and a smile make Nicki a knock out.

Jason can't help but stare.

NICKI

You like?

JASON

You take my breath away.

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED:

115

NICKI

That's sweet.

She gives him a quick kiss on the cheek and steps back. He steps towards her, gathers her in his arms and they really kiss, long, hard and deep, until they both have to break for a gulp of air.

A quick gasp and they go back to kissing. He lifts her and places her on the bed where his leg slips between her thighs.

They stop necking long enough to push away the kitten, who keeps poking it's wet nose between them.

KEITH steps into the doorway and watches them, Jason's hand caresses Nicki's butt then slowly slides up her body, pushing her tee shirt up.

They struggle with each others clothing until they are startled by:

KEITH

This Bimbett's not worth your badge,
partner.

Jason jumps out of bed, totally embarrassed, Nicki just straightens her tee shirt.

JASON

Lay off her, Keith.

KEITH

I'm not "laying" anyone.

He turns and walks out, then steps back in.

KEITH (CONT'D)

My shift is almost over, and I'm not
finishing the dishes.

He exits.

Nicki sticks her tongue out at Keith's back then checks her smeared make up in the bureau mirror.

NICKI

...My make up is ruined.

She goes into the small bathroom, followed by the kitten who just misses getting closed in the door.

116 INT. SAFE HOUSE SMALL BATHROOM - DAY

116

NICKI secures the door and looks at herself in the mirror. Her lipstick is smeared, her hair is messed again, and she

(CONTINUED)

116 CONTINUED:

116

is flushed with sexual excitement. She shakes her head and wipes off the lipstick with a tissue.

THE KITTEN sniffs at the coke spilled on the floor then cautiously licks at it.

NICKI finishes her face then notices the kitten, lying motionless near the spilled white powder.

She kneels next to the cat, picks it up and examines it, unwilling to accept that its dead. She shakes it, strokes it.

NICKI

Come on!

The kitten doesn't respond. Still unwilling to accept that its dead, Nicki leans over and puts her ear to the tiny body.

Hearing no heart beat, she gently puts the dead kitten down, pets it one last time, then stabs her finger at the coke. She sniffs the few grains that stick to her finger, examines them carefully, then cautiously licks at them.

They taste wrong so she quickly spits into the sink and washes out her mouth. Once she finishes wiping dry she sits on the toilet seat while she thinks over the ramifications of the kittens death. Coming to a decision, she gently puts the kittens body in the cabinet under the sink.

117 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - SUNDOWN

117

NICKI steps out of the bathroom and forces a smile at JASON.

NICKI

I'll finish the dishes.

She exits followed by Jason.

118 INT. SAFE HOUSE KITCHEN - SUNDOWN

118

NICKI finishes washing the dishes while nervously spying on Keith and Jason in the living room.

119 INT. SAFE HOUSE paneled DEN - NICKI'S P.O.V. - NIGHT

119

KEITH and JASON are arguing in hushed voices.

KEITH

...Call it kinky sex, she'll love it. Just make sure she's cuffed for the night.

Keith walks into the kitchen almost catching Nicki listening.

120 INT. SAFE HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT 120

NICKI goes back to finishing the dishes as KEITH enters.

KEITH

My shifts over, Sweet Cakes. Don't do anything I wouldn't.

NICKI

I don't masturbate.

Nicki smiles sweetly back at him, nonchalantly wiping off the counter. After Keith heads down the hall, Nicki splashes water on the front of her tee shirt, then strolls into the den.

121 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 121

JASON is watching an OLD B&W MOVIE on the T.V. He looks up as NICKI pauses at the entrance to the den, wiping at her wet shirt.

NICKI

I'm going to slip into something dry.

Nicki strolls towards the master bed room.

122 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT 122

NICKI closes the door behind her and quickly slips out of the wet tee shirt. She takes the blue and red sleeping pill from under the mattress and carefully hides it in her bra.

In the closet she finds a comfy looking flannel shirt and slips it on, making sure to button it high enough to hide the sleeping pill.

She checks her make up in the dresser mirror, then walks out into the den.

123 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 123

JASON is still watching T.V. as NICKI comes out of the bedroom.

She silently watches him for a moment.

NICKI

I'm a bundle of nerves.

JASON

Have something with sugar, it'll help take the edge off.

(CONTINUED)

123 CONTINUED: 123

NICKI

Yeah, maybe.

She goes into the kitchen,

124 INT. SAFE HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT 124

NICKI looks through the refrigerator,

NICKI

Want some chocolate milk?

JASON

Sure.

Nicki smiles and starts making two glasses of chocolate milk.

Nicki sneaks the sleeping pill from her bra and empties it into one of the glasses, then carries both into the living room.

125 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 125

NICKI offers the drugged glass to JASON. He takes it as she sits on the sofa next to him

JASON

Thanks.

She watches as he drinks, then she drinks.

NICKI

That does take the edge off a little.

Jason turns Nicki so she's sitting with her back to him.

JASON

Here, this will help you relax...

He gently reaches out and starts massaging the tension out of Nicki's back muscles.

NICKI

Ummm.

JASON

...How'd you get involved with Jimmy?

NICKI

My best friend Kim took me to this club. He was nice at first. We'd party, dance.

(MORE)

She relaxes as his hands move to massage the muscles of her shoulders.

(CONTINUED)

125 CONTINUED:

125

NICKI (CONT'D)

Ahhhh...Like that. You could let me walk away, Jay. Tell that jerk partner of yours that I escaped.

JASON

I can't.

NICKI

I heard you talking. He wants you to handcuff me to the bed so he can sneak in and kill me...

Jason keeps massaging Nicki, moving his fingers slowly up to her neck.

JASON

No one is going to hurt you. Trust me, we're here to protect you...

NICKI

...You'll be sorry in the morning, when I wake up dead.

His fingers circle her neck. Suddenly Nicki turns and takes his hands.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Please Jay, I'm begging for my life.

He takes back his hands and finishes his glass of chocolate milk.

JASON

Lets see what's on..

He picks up the remote and starts switching channels.

JASON (CONT'D)

...you prefer a movie or a sitcom.

They settle in to watching the tube.

JUMP CUT

SAME ANGLE - Nicki watches Jason yawn

JUMP CUT

SAME ANGLE -Nicki smiles as Jason tries to keep his eyes open.

JUMP CUT

(CONTINUED)

125 CONTINUED: (2) 125

SAME ANGLE - Nicki chuckles as Jason starts to nod off, his head jerking up as he catches himself falling a sleep.

JUMP CUT

SAME ANGLE - Nicki stands over a slumped and SNORING Jason. She lifts his arm and it drops lifelessly, She sneaks out of the den.

126 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BED ROOM - NIGHT 126

NICKI tip toes into her bedroom.

127 INT. SAFE HOUSE HALLWAY - NIGHT 127

KEITH, shaggy from sleeping in his clothes, stumbles out of the extra bedroom, up the hall and into the 2nd bathroom.

128 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 128

Nicki comes out of her bedroom, slipping on a jacket and slinging her purse over her shoulder. She walks past the hall on her way to the kitchen. She walks into the kitchen, pauses to grab a steak knife from the dish rack, then strolls into the living room. Down the hall, KEITH looks out of the bathroom, not sure if he heard something

129 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 129

KEITH, pulling up his pants, stumbles out of the hall and into the den. He tries to wake up JASON.

JASON

Partner! Jay! Come on! Damn!

Jason is out cold. Keith looks into the bedroom. Not seeing NICKI he rushes through the den into the kitchen and out into the living room.

130 EXT. SAFE HOUSE STREET - NIGHT 130

NICKI is sticking the kitchen knife into the back tire of the unmarked police car.

KEITH rushes out the front door stopping on the front steps..

KEITH

Hey! Stop that!

(MORE)

Nicki looks back, sees KEITH and panics. She pulls out the knife and runs.

(CONTINUED)

130 CONTINUED:

130

"ZZZZZZZZ" OF ESCAPING AIR

Keith chases after her. Nicki runs out into the street, Keith in hot pursuit. A pickup truck, LOUD RAP MUSIC BOOMING from its stereo, speeds up next to Nicki.

KEITH (CONT'D)
(trying to yell over
music)
POLICE! STOP!

NICKI
HELP ME!

THE TEENAGER driving the pickup can't believe his good luck. He leans over and opens the passenger side door.

TEENAGER
JUMP IN!

She leaps in, slamming the door closed.

NICKI
...He...he tried to rape me...Go...
Go!

The pickup truck speeds off as Keith sprints up. He stops, panting, and watches as:

The pickup truck drives off, Nicki looking out the back window. Her fear dissolves to a smile as she drives off.

KEITH
(Gasping)
Bitch!

131 EXT. ARTHUR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

131

The pickup truck stops in front. NICKI gives the BOY a quick kiss on the cheek, says thanks and jumps out. A quick wave goodbye and she walks to the front door and goes in.

MAX watches from up the block. Like a ninja, he silently slips out of his car and disappears into the shadows.

132 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

132

NICKI bursts in the front door, stopping in the middle of the dark living room, light pours from the Dining room.

NICKI
PaPa! Dad!

ARTHUR rolls out of the kitchen and puts a cup of coffee on the dinner table..

(CONTINUED)

132 CONTINUED:

132

ARTHUR

Pam!...Sorry, Nicole. Happy birthday,
I thought...

NICKI

Oh, PaPa!

She drops to her knees and hugs him, a tear welling in her eye.

NICKI (CONT'D)

I thought I'd never see you again.

ARTHUR

Hey! What's the matter.

NICKI

They're trying to kill me.

He holds her at arms length.

ARTHUR

Kill you...? What the hell. Start
from the beginning.

133 EXT. ARTHUR'S HOUSE - NIGHT

133

MAX steps out of a shadow and peeks in a window.

THRU WINDOW - Arthur is listening while Nicki excitedly tells her tale.

Max smiles and steps back into the shadows.

134 INT. ARTHUR'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

134

MAX suddenly appears in the window of the kitchen door. He flicks open a butterfly knife then disappears as he ducks below the window. The knife blade slips out between the door and the jam and slides down towards the door knob. A couple of pokes of the blade and jiggles of the door knob and the door quietly slips open. Max steps in.

135 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

135

NICKI, kneeling in front of ARTHUR, cries on his shoulder. ARTHUR strokes her hair trying to comfort her.

ARTHUR

Don't worry, Baby. I'll take care
of you.

(MORE)

He takes her face in his hands and gently thumbs away the tears.

(CONTINUED)

135 CONTINUED:

135

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Come on. Stop the rain. We got things to do. We got to get you out of here. It won't be long till those cops come here looking for you...

He stands her up.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

...go on, pack us some "get away" clothes.

NICKI

Where we going.

ARTHUR

Just do as I tell you, Go on.

She smiles and goes down the dark hall.

Arthur rolls over to his desk and goes thru the top drawer.

MAX stalks out of the kitchen and sneaks up behind Arthur, who sees Max's reflection in the brass desk lamp.

Max raises his knife as he closes in on Arthur, getting ready to plunge the blade into ARTHUR'S heart.

Arthur watches the reflection, waiting until Max is committed, then pushes away from the desk as hard as he can, plowing into Max. Arthur grabs Max's knife hand as it comes down and judo flips Max over his shoulder.

Max CRASHES onto the desk.

136 INT. ARTHUR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

136

FIGHTING NOISES (O.S.)

NICKI rushes out.

137 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

137

ARTHUR has set the wheelchairs leg supports to prop one leg out straight. Pivoting the wheelchair back and forth, Arthur uses his leg to fence off MAX.

ARTHUR

Come on, mother fucker. A cripple in a wheel chair too much man for you?

(MORE)

Max slashes with the knife, cutting deep into Arthur's extended leg.

(CONTINUED)

137 CONTINUED:

137

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

That the best you can do...

He raps on the leg with his fist.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

...No feelings, Asshole!

Max spins and kicks at Arthur's head, but Arthur's ready. He grabs Max's leg and pivots his chair with his other hand.

Arthur's extended leg sweeps the one leg out from under Max, who crashes to the floor, then judo rolls to his feet.

MAX

You're dead, old Man!

Nicki steps out of the hallway into the light.

NICKI

Max!

Max whirls around to face Nicki, then looks back over his shoulder at Arthur.

MAX

Your slut daughter dies first.

He slowly advances on Nicki

NICKI

I thought we were friends.

MAX

You talk, you die, you knew that.

Arthur pokes his legs into the back of Max's legs, making him stumble.

ARTHUR

Come on, Asshole. I haven't killed anyone since the war.

MAX

Wait your turn.

ARTHUR

That's what your Mama use to say.

Max grabs Arthur's dead leg and shoves him back across the room. Arthur crashes back first against the wall.

NICKI

Leave him alone. It's me you want.

(CONTINUED)

137 CONTINUED: (2)

137

Max turns back to Nicki.

MAX

Your Daddy know your a coke whore?

Arthur rolls as fast as he can at the back of Max's legs.

ARTHUR

AHHHH!

Just before Arthur crashes into his legs, Max jumps and spreads his legs. Arthur's leg rolls between Max's legs. Max looks back at Arthur.

MAX

Give it up, Old Man.

Arthur smiles, grabs the knee of his pants and yanks his stiff leg up into Max's crotch, doubling Max over in pain. Arthur grabs the back of Max's shirt and pulls Max into his lap. They grapple and ARTHUR knocks MAX's knife across the room.

Nicki grabs the knife and ineffectually hacks at Max because she doesn't want to accidentally hit her dad.

NICKI

GET OFF HIM! GET OFF HIM!

Finally Max rolls out of the chair pulling Arthur with him as protection, They land on the floor with a THUMP.

NICKI (CONT'D)

LEAVE HIM ALONE!

Nicki thrusts the knife at MAX, stabbing him in the leg and hitting an artery.

MAX

Shit!

He stops struggling with ARTHUR, and grabs the knife from her. Before he can attack her, ARTHUR pulls him back down. They struggle on the floor as the pool of blood spreads.

MAX (CONT'D)

Shit. Shit! Shit!

NICKI stands back shocked by what she's done. She can't help staring. The two men gradually stop struggling as MAX bleeds out and dies.

ARTHUR

Help me.

(CONTINUED)

137 CONTINUED: (3)

137

Nicki rolls Arthur off Max and into her arms, revealing the butterfly knife stuck deep in Arthur's ribs, his shirt soaked in a spreading circle of blood.

NICKI

Oh god! PaPa! I'll get a doctor.

She starts to get up but he grabs her arm, holding her down.

ARTHUR

No. It doesn't even hurt.

NICKI

What should I do?

ARTHUR

You're on your own now, Princess.

He gently wipes at her tears. She hugs him.

NICKI

Don't die...

ARTHUR

My legs! Look! I can feel my legs!
I can move them.

He points at his motionless legs.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

See Pam, see it moved!

NICKI

Yes, PaPa.

He closes his eyes and dies.

NICKI (CONT'D)

I love you, PaPa...PaPa?

She shakes him, trying to wake him, then hugs him and cries.

When she looks up to wipe the tears from her eyes she sees Max and her grief turns to hate.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Damn you...

Nicki gently lays her dad down.

NICKI (CONT'D)

...DAMN you...
(MORE)

She stands, her hate turning to rage.

(CONTINUED)

137 CONTINUED: (4)

137

NICKI (CONT'D)
...DAMN YOU...

She furiously kicks MAX, over and over, venting her frustration and anger.

NICKI (CONT'D)
...DAMN YOU, DAMN YOU, DAMN YOU,
DAMN YOU, DAMN, DAMN, DAMN, DAMN,
DAMN, damn...damn.

Until she falls to her knees. She pummels him with ever weaker punches till she collapses, exhausted. Out of breath, Nicki gasps until she gets her second wind. With renewed determination, Nicki stands and marches down the hall.

138 INT. NICKI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

138

NICKI enters and starts changing her clothes.

139 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT

139

JASON and KEITH are finishing putting the spare tire on their unmarked sedan.

JASON
Look at me, I'm filthy. I need to
go clean up.

KEITH
We need to go find Nicki. Now!

140 INT. ARTHUR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

140

NICKI, dressed in jeans and a dark sweater, takes an old army 45 automatic from the bed stand and checks the magazine. It's empty. She stuffs the gun into a gym bag and exits.

141 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

141

NICKI enters, for a moment she is stunned by seeing her Dads corpse again, then she makes herself walk around the bodies to the mantel. Nicki takes the hand grenades off the picture frame and sticks them into her gym bag, then goes over to the desk.

From a bottom drawer she takes a box of 45 caliber ammunition and stuffs it in the gym bag then she goes to the dining room table.

Nicki looks at the solitaire game on the dining room table.

Arthur had been two cards short of winning the game. Nicki plays the last two cards, one at a time, winning the game.

(CONTINUED)

- 141 CONTINUED: 141
- She smiles at the irony.
- She walks over and kneels next to her dad.
- NICKI
- Hey, PaPa. You finally won a game.
- She closes his eyes, takes the car keys from his pocket, fixes his collar and his hair, then kisses him.
- 142 EXT. ARTHUR' HOUSE - NIGHT 142
- NICKI marches out of the house carrying the gym bag, gets into her Dads car and drives off.
- 143 INT. UNMARKED SEDAN - NIGHT 143
- JASON and KEITH race up a suburban street. Keith is driving, JASON is busy trying to clean his hands with a small towelette.
- KEITH
- Christ, Jay. You fell a sleep and let her walk right out of the place.
- JASON
- It won't come off, that filthy tire got grime everywhere, and I have a splitting headache...
- KEITH
- Let's just hope we find her before Detective Chong finds out.
- 144 INT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 144
- NICKI drives up and parks in the driveway in front of the house.
- Carrying the gym bag she walks up to the front door.
- 145 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 145
- NICKI enters, puts the gym bag on the coffee table and takes out a hand grenade. She tosses it up and down for a moment, looking around and thinking. Unable to find inspiration in the living room, Nicki puts the grenade back in the gym bag and walks through the house to the office.
- 146 INT. SAFE HOUSE OFFICE - NIGHT 146
- NICKI steps in the door and looks around. She finds a Sing-a-long and a Walkman radio, turning on the Walkman radio she tests the wireless microphone.

(CONTINUED)

146 CONTINUED: 146

NICKI & WALKMAN RADIO
(Live & Radio filtered)
It's not for singing, it's for bugging
my sister's room!

The Sing-a-long works, much to Nicki's delight. Next she grabs the wireless fire truck's remote and tries it. The truck lurches into her foot. Inspired, she searches the book shelves and finds two kids walkie-talkies. She stuffs everthing into her gym bag, and exits.

147 EXT. ARTHUR'S HOUSE - NIGHT 147

The unmarked sedan stops in front, JASON & KEITH get out. Jason disappears around the side of the house while Keith goes to the front door, opens it and walks in.

148 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - DINING NOOK - NIGHT 148

NICKI sits at the table using pliers's to pull the heads off bullets and empty the gun powder into one of the grenades.

One more bullet fills the grenade so she carefully screws the detonator-trigger back on, sets the grenade in the gym bag and takes out the other grenade.

149 EXT. ARTHUR'S HOUSE - NIGHT 149

A police car pulls up followed by DETECTIVE CHONG'S unmarked sedan. Chong storms out of the car heading towards the house, obviously pissed off.

150 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - LOOKING IN WINDOWS - NIGHT 150

NICKI strolls into the living room, carrying the gym bag on her shoulder. She goes from room to room opening the drapes. She ends up in the master bed room. She opens the side security door, letting light from the outside spill in, then she unlocks the security screen door. On her way out of the room she stops at the closet, pulls one walk - talky out of the gym bag, makes sure it's working and put it in the closet. Then she turns off the light and closes the bed room door as she leaves. In the paneled Den, Nicki takes the TV remote, turns on the TV and changes the channel until white static on the big screen eerily lights up the room, then turns the VOLUME WAY UP, with a CLICK she turns off the TV and stuffs the remote into the gym bag. Next she takes the wireless phone from the end table and dials. She puts the phone to her ear and turns out the den's lights as she moves into the kitchen.

151 INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 151

JIMMY is making love to a drugged but reluctant KIM, in the background DOUGHBOY is cleaning his gun.

(CONTINUED)

151 CONTINUED:

151

A paper envelope of Mexican brown, a hypo, and a bent spoon are on the dresser.

CELL PHONE BEEPS

DOUGHBOY takes the phone from his pocket and flips it open

JIMMY
That's probably Max.

Jimmy holds out his hand and Doughboy tosses over the phone.

JIMMY (CONT'D)
Hello...

He sits up, surprised.

JIMMY (CONT'D)
Are you O.K.? Where are you, Lover?

He writes down the address as he listens.

152 INT. SAFE HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

152

She rummages through the kitchen utility drawer while...

NICKI
...I came back to the one place
they'll never think to look...No I
haven't seen Max...OK...I'll be
waiting for you... you know I love
you...

She smiles and holds up a tube of instant glue then sticks it in the gym bag. She turns off the light as she exits the kitchen, still listening on the cell phone.

153 INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

153

KIM and DOUGHBOY listen while JIMMY talks on the phone.

JIMMY
...OK... No. Just do as I say and
everything will be OK... Wait there
for me...Bye, Lover.

He hangs up, rips the address off the pad and sticks it in his pocket then starts to dial another number.

JIMMY (CONT'D)
The dumb bitch is waiting for us...

154 EXT. ARTHUR'S HOUSE - NIGHT 154

Max's car is empty except for the BEEPING cell phone on the front seat, in the background another unmarked sedan pulls up and parks across the street from Arthur's house, THREE CSI OFFICERS get out carrying work cases.

155 INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 155

JIMMY CLICKS off the phone and jumps out of bed.

JIMMY

...If that fool Max shows up tell him to wait here for us.

KIM

What are you going to do?

JIMMY

Just do as I tell you.

He grabs Kim and kisses her despite her struggles, then pushes her down. DOUGHBOY is loading the weapons.

KIM

Nicki called you, she won't talk, you can't just...

JIMMY

Shut up, Bitch. And remember, if you want more of this...

Jimmy grabs the baggy of heroin off the dresser.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

...you'll keep you're mouth shut, your legs open and be here when we get back.

Jimmy grabs one of the automatics from Doughboy and they both exit.

156 EXT. STAIRWELL, KIM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 156

JIMMY and DOUGHBOY rush down the stairs, while putting away their weapons.

DOUGHBOY

She won't be here when we get back.

JIMMY

We ain't coming back.

DOUGHBOY

You got a plan?

(CONTINUED)

156 CONTINUED:

156

JIMMY

We cap Nicki, then a change of scenery.

DOUGHBOY

New Orleans?

JIMMY

Or Houston.

157 INT. KIM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

157

KIM slowly gets up off the floor and dusts herself off. She takes the note pad that Jimmy wrote the address on, and holds it up to the light.

The imprint of the address is barely visible, but the Safe house's address is still readable.

Kim starts getting dressed. She is shaking so bad she can hardly button her blouse.

158 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

158

NICKI is searching through the gym bag, while talking on her hands free cell phone,

NICKI

...I just need to talk to officer Jason O'Connell... Yes, its an emergency...His cell number, I'll take it...

She takes out a pen and jots down the phone number on her hand. She sticks the pen back in the gym bag and takes out a hand grenade.

159 INT. ARTHUR'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

159

A UNIFORMED POLICEMAN is putting white tape around MAX'S & ARTHUR'S bodies. THREE CSI'S are dusting for fingerprints, collecting evidence or taking flash pictures.

JASON and KEITH are talking with Detective Chong.

A CELL PHONE BEEPS

Everyone stops and checks their cell phones.

JASON

It's me.

He grabs his cell phone while everyone else goes back to work.

(CONTINUED)

159 CONTINUED: 159

DET. CHONG

That better be business, you don't
have time for personal calls.

JASON flips open his cells phone as he walks into the kitchen.

160 INT. ARTHUR'S KITCHEN - NIGHT 160

JASON steps in.

JASON

Hello... Nicole! Are you OK?...
Where are you?

161 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 161

NICKI can be seen through the living room window. She is still talking on her hands free cell phone while moving around the room.

Finally, she grabs the gym bag and walks towards the front door she flicks the light switches on the wall but nothing happens then she reaches up and turns off the sconce light switch and the living room goes dark. NICKI steps out the front door, still talking on the phone.

NICKI

I ...I'm so scared, please come and
get me... OK, I'll wait right
here...hurry!

Her face hardens as she turns off the phone, puts it in the gym bag then walks across the yard and hides in the shadow of a neighbor's bush.

162 EXT. KIM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 162

KIM stumbles out of the building and just manages to get into her car.

She drives away, scattering a bunch of garbage cans.

163 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 163

JIMMY & DOUGHBOY drive slowly by, make a U turn at the end of the block and return to pull in the driveway and park. They get out of the car and walk in the front door. Moonlight exposes them through the front window as they step into the living room.

NICKI takes the walkman radio out of the gym bag and turns it on.

(CONTINUED)

163 CONTINUED: 163

JIMMY
(radio -Filtered)
Nicki! You here, Honey?!

Nicki takes the wireless remote control out of the gym bag.

164 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 164

Taped under the coffee table, the Sing-a-long wireless
Microphone bugs JIMMY & DOUGHBOY.

JIMMY
Find the damn light switch.

DOUGHBOY feels along the moon lit wall by the door, finding
and flicking the light switches. Nothing happens. JIMMY
takes out his automatic.

JIMMY (CONT'D)
HEY NICKI!
(under his breath)
Where the hell is she?

165 EXT. SAFE HOUSE BUSH - NIGHT 165

NICKI switches on the wireless remote control and moves the
control forward.

166 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 166

JIMMY & DOUGHBOY are startled by ELECTRIC MOTOR NOISE.

DOUGHBOY
What's that?

Jimmy points to the dark corner.

JIMMY
There!

They both swing their guns towards:

The toy fire engine rolls into the moon light, string slowly
feeding out behind it.

Jimmy and Doughboy watch as the toy rolls towards the middle
of the room.

DOUGHBOY
It's a fire truck.

JIMMY
What kind of game is she playing.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

166 CONTINUED: 166

One end of the string is tied to a chair leg, the other end to the pin of the hand grenade, which is taped to the fire engine.

The string runs out and the pin is pulled, SNAPPING the trigger and springing the detonator. A spark, then ...

Jimmy and Doughboy take a moment to recognize what happened.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Shit!

167 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 167

Looking in the front window, JIMMY & DOUGHBOY can be seen frozen in the moonlight.

JIMMY

(Radio filtered)

GRENADE!!

JIMMY and DOUGHBOY dive for cover.

NICKI chuckles, puts the remote control in the gym bag and sneaks over to the shadowy side of the house.

168 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 168

JIMMY and DOUGHBOY are ducked and covered.

The fire truck and grenade are just sitting there in the middle of the room. Suddenly a puff of smoke FIZZLES out of the grenade, then nothing.

Jimmy & Doughboy eye each other, unsure what to do.

JIMMY

A dud?

Doughboy shrugs.

JIMMY reluctantly crawls closer, gaining confidence as time passes. Finally, he grabs the grenade and truck and stands up.

169 EXT. SIDE OF SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 169

NICKI is standing next to the master bedrooms exterior security door listening to the walkman.

JIMMY

(Radio filtered)

What is this shit...

(CONTINUED)

169 CONTINUED:

169

NICKI
(Whispers)
Damn!

Nicki bends down and takes the security alarm door jam from under the door then rummages in the gym bag and takes out the childrens' walkie-talkie.

170 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

170

JIMMY tosses the toy across the room as DOUGHBOY joins him.

JIMMY
NICKI!

NICKI (O.S.)
(slightly walkie-talkie
filtered)
In here! Help me!

Jimmy and Doughboy head down the hallway towards the sound of her voice.

171 EXT. SIDE OF SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT

171

NICKI is stands next to the security door talking into the walkie-talkie.

NICKI
Hurry, I need you...

She takes out the other grenade and kisses it for good luck.

172 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT

172

JIMMY and DOUGHBOY move cautiously to the side of the master bedrooms closed door, their automatics out and ready.

JIMMY
Where are you, Sweetheart?

NICKI (O.S.)
(slightly walkie-talkie
filtered)
In the bedroom.

JIMMY, sensing something is wrong, points from Doughboy to the door. Doughboy braces, then cautiously opens the door and starts in. Jimmy stays safely pressed against the den's paneled wall.

173 EXT. SIDE OF SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT

173

NICKI is still standing next to the security door. Through the doors screening DOUGHBOY can be seen entering the bedroom,

(CONTINUED)

173 CONTINUED:

173

closing the door behind him and turning on the light, revealing that the room is empty. With gun ready, Doughboy moves towards the security door.

Nicki talks into the walkie-talkie.

NICKI
I'm in the closet!

Doughboy whirls around, aiming towards the closet, his back now to the open security door.

NICKI (CONT'D)
Help me, I'm tied up in here.

She puts down the walkie-talkie as Doughboy cautiously moves towards the closet.

174 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

174

DOUGHBOY opens the closet and sees that it's empty. He reaches in and takes out the other half of the kids walkie - talkie set. He likes toys so he tries to play with it.

CLICK! SQUELCH!

DOUGHBOY
Hello, Hello, Nicki? You there?

Behind him, NICKI opens the security. She quickly squeezes super glue on the grenade, being careful not to get any on herself, then she pulls the pin.

NICKI
Hey! Catch!

175 EXT. SIDE OF SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT

175

NICKI tosses the grenade to DOUGHBOY, who catches it by reflex.

Doughboy looks at it and smiles.

DOUGHBOY
Another dud.

NICKI
I hope not.

Nicki slams the security door closed and ducks out of the way, hiding next to the door.

176 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BED ROOM - NIGHT 176

Doughboy tries to toss the grenade away and is surprised to find it glued to his hand. His eyes go wide as he starts to feel something is wrong. He keeps trying to throw the grenade away.

DOUGHBOY

Jimmy? Jimmy! My hands are stuck.

177 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 177

JIMMY is still pressed against the wall, light streaming from under the closed bedroom door.

JIMMY

Don't worry, I'll...

Before he can move the flash and BANG of an explosion blows the bedroom door, smoke, debris and DOUGHBOY out of the master bedroom. Doughboys body destroys the end table and flies onto the sofa, splattering it with blood and debris.

178 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 178

The explosion blows smoke and blood splatter out the security doors screening, RATTLING the door and blowing out the bedroom light. NICKI grabs the gym bag and runs into the back yard.

179 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 179

DOUGHBOY lies on the door like meat on a slice of wheat bread, dead. For a moment, JIMMY is too stunned to move.

JIMMY

Son of a bitch!

180 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 180

KIM drives up and parks across the street. She is afraid to get out of the car so she just stares at the house.

The house is dark and quiet.

181 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 181

JIMMY checks DOUGHBOY. Satisfied that he's dead, Jimmy cautiously sneaks towards the dark living room.

182 EXT. SAFE HOUSE BACKYARD - NIGHT 182

NICKI rummages through her gym bag and takes out the walkman radio.

183 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 183

In the dark, JIMMY trips over the coffee table.

184 EXT. SAFE HOUSE BACKYARD - NIGHT 184

NICKI listens to her walkman radio.

JIMMY
(radio filtered -
whispers)
Shit!

NOISE OF FURNITURE MOVING.

185 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 185

JIMMY has pulled out the overstuffed sofa. He hides behind it, his back to the wall, carefully using the back of the sofa to sight his pistol.

JIMMY'S P.O.V. - The leaser sight of the revolver scans from the kitchen entrance to the front door.

JIMMY smiles and waits.

186 EXT. SIDE OF SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 186

NICKI quietly slips in the master bedroom's security door, being careful not to get any blood on her clothes. She hides against the blackened wall next to the master bed room door, gun ready. She goes tense as the red dot of JIMMY's leaser site sudden flashes through the still smoky open door and appears against the far wall, moving around, as if searching for her. She takes a TV remote from her gym bag, rejects it and takes another from the bag..

Nicki's thumb finds the power button and hovers over it.

187 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 187

JIMMY waits for Nicki to step into his trap, straining to here all and see all.

As he shift has aim the leaser beam moves from the still smoky darkness of the master bedrooms door way to the front door

Suddenly LOUD STATIC NOISE BLARES from the T.V. and the room is bathed in the blue-white light glaring out of the T.V. set to JIMMY's right.

JIMMY reacts, swinging the gun towards the T.V. Instinctively he rises to get a better sight line and inadvertently exposes himself in the blue-white glare of the T.V.

188 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 188
NICKI steps into the open doorway or the master bed room,
aims at the now exposed JIMMY.

189 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 189
BANG!
The gun flash joins the light from the T.V. A bullet tears
into the throw pillow on the sofa in front of JIMMY sending
out a puff of stuffing. Jimmy dives behind the sofa.

190 INT. SAFE HOUSE MASTER BED ROOM - NIGHT 190
NICKI ducks back against the wall.
JIMMY (O.S.)
Very tricky, Nicki. But you missed.

191 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 191
JIMMY is still hiding behind the sofa.,
NICKI (O.S.)
I'll get you next time.
Jimmy laughs. He sights the automatic at the edge of the
master bedrooms doorway.

192 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 192
Still parked across the street, KIM is frightened by the
shots.
(Muffled) BANG!
KIM stares at the dark house.
BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!
The muzzle flashes and the eerie light from the T.V. light
up the living room then muzzle flashes light up the Den, the
laser site can be seen streaming through the still smoky
den. For a moment all is dark and quiet again.
Kim sits in the car, near tears, frightened but determined.
She starts to open the car door then stops as car head lights
spill across her. She looks over her shoulder.
The unmarked sedan drives past her and pulls into the safe
house's driveway, parking behind the other cars. JASON and
KEITH get out and go to the front door.

193 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 193

JIMMY turns off the T.V. and the living room goes dark, except for moon light. JIMMY quickly sneaks into the kitchen, hiding behind the den's wall, his automatic still smoking in his hand.

JIMMY
(softly)
Give it up, bitch?

CLICK OF FRONT DOOR OPENING

JASON (O.S.)
Nicki? We're here!

Jimmy dives across the open kitchen doorway and into the hall.

BANG!

A gun flash from the master bed room silhouettes him, but he appears to make it safely.

194 EXT. SIDE OF SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 194

NICKI is slipping out the bloody security door. She calls back into the house.

NICKI
Look out, Jason! Jimmy's in the house!

She turns and runs into the back yard.

195 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 195

JASON and KEITH take cover, Jason behind the sofa, KEITH against the kitchen wall.

KEITH takes a quick look into the kitchen but can't see anything but dark shadows.

KEITH
I don't see him anywhere, You Partner?

JASON
It's too dark.

196 EXT. SAFE HOUSE BACKYARD - NIGHT 196

NICKI takes her cell phone and dials a number then pushes the # sign. She smiles and moves into the shadows.

197 INT. SAFE HOUSE PANELED DEN - NIGHT 197

JIMMY is crouched in the hall trying to decide what to do next when the decision is made for him.

BEEP - BEEP - BEEP.

Jimmy cell phone goes off.

JIMMY

SHIT!

Switching it off, Jimmy tosses the phone across the room and it crashes against the far wall. Out in the living room JASON and KEITH step out from their cover and into the kitchen doorway, leveling their pistols on Jimmy's position.

KEITH

Throw out your gun, Asshole.

Trapped, JIMMY looks down the hall and sees the door to the back yard.

JIMMY

You want my gun, you can have it.

Jimmy sticks the gun out of the hall and aims towards the Kitchen door way.

198 EXT. SAFE HOUSE DEN WINDOW - NIGHT 198

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Gun flashes and the leaser site light up the room and reveal JIMMY firing as he backs down the hall and out the back door.

199 INT. SAFE HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT 199

Bang!

The muzzle flash reveals KEITH and JASON rushing into the kitchen and hiding against the den wall..

JASON

Is he out there?

Keith reluctantly peeks out at the hallway. It looks dark.

KEITH

I can't be sure. We need back up.

KEITH heads back into the living room. For a moment Jason's gun is pointed at his partners back, then he points his weapon at the ceiling and follows Keith into the living room.

200 INT. SAFE HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 200

JASON and KEITH flank either side of the open front door.

JASON
He's out there.

KEITH
Maybe. We should find Nicki before
he does.

JASON
You hold down the fort. I'll check
the back of the house.

KEITH
Thanks.

Jason dashes into the kitchen while KEITH takes out his cell phone.

201 EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT 201

KIM has been crouched down on her front seat, but now that the gun shots have stopped, she steels herself and peeks out the window.

JIMMY appears out of the dark shadows on the left side of the house. He runs up the driveway and dives behind the unmarked sedan.

Jimmy reloads his automatic, occasionally glancing over the trunk of the car to see if anyone comes out of the house.

Nicki peeks around the opposite corner of the house.

The front yard looks clear.

Nicki runs for the bushes by the front door.

PATTER OF RUNNING FEET

Jimmy peeks over the trunk of the car to see who is running.

Nicki dives behind the bushes and rolls to her knees. Her back is to JIMMY as she watches the front door.

JIMMY smiles, stands up and steps into the middle of the drive way. The sedan is between him and the house.

In the foreground, KIM sits in her car watching Jimmy take careful aim at Nicki's back. Jimmy savors the moment.

Kim starts the car.

(CONTINUED)

201 CONTINUED:

201

VROOM - SCREECH!

The cars tires squeal and smoke as Kim speeds away from the curb and turns into the safe house's drive way.

Nicki turns at the NOISE and sees:

Jimmy has the drop on her. Smiling he slowly squeezes the trigger, the hammer crawls back and CLICKS.

Kim aims the speeding car at Jimmy, who hears it speeding up the drive way and turns, facing the car. His eyes bulge.

Jimmy swings his gun around and aims at Kim.

NICKI

NO!

BANG!

Jimmy's bullet shatters Kim's windshield. KIM's car lurches towards Jimmy.

CRASH!

Kim's fender crushes Jimmy's legs against the sedans back fender.

Jimmy, pinned by the collision, is slammed from the trunk of the sedan to the hood of Kim's car by the force of the crash.

His gun is thrown up on the hood of Kim's car, getting stuck in the windshield wiper.

Nicki, stunned, steps towards the cars, behind her KEITH then JASON rush out the front door, guns ready. For a moment they pause on either side of Nicki.

Jimmy is sprawled across the hood of Kim's car. He winces in pain as he stretches, trying to get his automatic, which is just out of reach of his fingers tips. In her car, Kim lulls against the steering wheel.

Nicki realizes her friend is at least hurt.

NICKI (CONT'D)

Kim?!

The stunned silence broken, Keith and Jason react as Nicki starts towards her friend.

JASON

No...

Jason reaches out and holds her back, protectively.

(CONTINUED)

201 CONTINUED: (2)

201

KEITH

Wait here, we'll check her out.

Keith and Jason move towards the car while Nicki watches.

JASON

You check the girl, I'll do Jimmy.

They split up. Keith goes around Kim's car towards the drivers side door. Jason goes over to Jimmy.

Hate and pain make JIMMY glare at Jason, who casually leans over the hood and takes the automatic away from Jimmy's still grasping fingers. Smiling, Jason leans close to Jimmy,

JASON (CONT'D)

(Whispers)

You still have my fifty thou?

Hope replaces pain on JIMMY's face.

JIMMY

(whispers)

Yes! ...Twice that!

Jason turns back to Nicki, pulling the clip from Jimmy's automatic he checks to see that it's still loaded, then he slams the clip back into the gun. Behind Jason, Keith checks on Kim.

Keith pushes Kim away from the steering wheel, revealing a seeping hole in her head.

KEITH

She's gone. I'll call for an ambulance.

Keith starts towards the sedan.

JIMMY

(To Jason)

What are you waiting for?

KEITH

Shut up, asshole.

Jimmy glares back at Keith.

JIMMY

Kill her, kill them both, damn it.
Do it and you're rich...

(MORE)

Jimmy looks at Jason, who is watching Nicki.

(CONTINUED)

201 CONTINUED: (3)

201

JIMMY (CONT'D)

...let her go and you're going down
with me! KILL HER! SHOOT THE BITCH!

NICKI can't tell which Cop JIMMY is talking to. She aims the 45 automatic back and forth between Jason and Keith, unsure which is the enemy.

NICKI

Don't move! Either of you.

JIMMY

KILL THEM BOTH!

NICKI

SHUT UP!

She points the gun at Jimmy.

Jimmy glares back at her, but doesn't say anything.

JASON

You were right, Nicki. Keith must
have gone bad.

Jason turns away from Nicki and aims JIMMY's automatic at Keith.

KEITH

What the fuck.

NICKI

Drop your guns!

She also levels her gun at Keith.

Keith looks from Nicki to Jason, realizes what's happening and looks back at Nicki.

KEITH

You're making a big mistake, Sugar.

JASON

Just drop it.

Keith slowly swings his gun towards Jason.

KEITH

You know I can't, a cop never gives
up his gun.

NICKI

Shut up, both of you. I shoot the
first man that moves.

(CONTINUED)

201 CONTINUED: (4)

201

She keeps backing away while covering both Jason and Keith.

Jimmy slowly reaches down, as if to rub his injured legs but instead he reaches into his pocket and slips out his switchblade knife.

Nicki tries to watch everyone, the tension making her sweat.

Jason looks from Keith to Nicki, his gun still on Keith.

Keith glares at Jason.

Jimmy, with practiced speed, flicks out the blade, flips it into throwing position and flings the knife at Keith.

JIMMY

KILL HER!

The knife sticks deep in Keith's chest. Keith aims at Jimmy.

BANG!

Keith shoots, then collapses behind the sedan.

Nicki is surprised, she looks at Jason, trying to realize the meaning of what happened.

Jason swings Jimmy's gun around, leveling it on Nicki and firing in one motion.

BANG!

Nicki is hit in the arm. The force of the bullet spins her around and knocks the gun from her hand. She drops to her knees, holding her bleeding shoulder.

Jason walks over and looks down at NICKI. He starts to raise Jimmy's automatic.

NICKI

It was you all along.

JASON

Sorry, Sweetheart!

Jason aims at her head.

BANG!

Jason smiles, blood dribbles down his chin, then Jason collapses revealing Keith kneeling behind the sedan, the gun still smoking in his hand.

(CONTINUED)

201 CONTINUED: (5)

201

KEITH

You were right, Sweet Cheeks. One
of us was trying to kill you.

Keith struggles to his feet and checks Jimmy, rolling his
head over revealing a neat hole between the eyes.

KEITH (CONT'D)

Got the Sucker!

Then Keith collapses again, disappearing behind the cars.
Nicki takes the cell phone from her pocket and dials 911.

NICKI

Hello, Police? I want to report...

POLICE SIRENS FADE UP(0.S.)

NICKI (CONT'D)

...we need an ambulance, what do
they say...officer down.

NICKI is suddenly bathed in car lights and flashing police
car lights.

202 EXT. COMMUNITY COLLEGE SIGN - DAY

202

The college is sprawled behind the sign. JOHNNY, now a
college jock, is chatting with his BUDDIES. NICKI strolls
across the campus, her arms loaded with books. Johnny has
his back to Nicki as she walks by. The guys check her out.

BUDDIES

Wow! Check it out! That's fine!

Johnny turns to see who his buddies are talking about just
as Nicki looks back at the group. They recognize each other.

Nicki stops, at first surprised then angry. She glares back
at Johnny.

Smiling, Johnny turns back to his buddies and makes a joke.

The group snickers.

Fuming, Nicki flips them the finger and walks off.

203 EXT. COLLEGE PARKING LOT - DAY

203

ROLL TAIL CREDITS

NICKI waits, still upset. KEITH, driving NICKI's convertible,
pulls up next to her.

(CONTINUED)

203 CONTINUED:

203

KEITH
Hello, Pam. How goes college?

NICKI
Great! How you doing?

KEITH
Back on active duty starting
yesterday. You keeping your nose
clean?

NICKI
And to the grind stone...

Nicki looks back at the college, thinking, deciding.

NICKI (CONT'D)
...Hey, Keith. What's the Statute
of Limitations on rape?

KEITH
Seven years. Why?

LONG SHOT

NICKI and KEITH continue talking while she gets into the
convertible, they drive out of the parking lot and up the
street.

DISTORTED CHEERING

END TAIL CREDITS

THE END