

# **Second Chance**

by

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“A story of one man’s faith in believing that GOD’s path will lead him to happiness.  
However the road will not be easy to get there.”

FADE IN:

EXT. BALTIMORE – MORNING

Establishing shot: A Baltimore inner city neighborhood on a clear early spring afternoon.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT PORCH OF DIRTY ROW HOME

Two late teen boys, Justin, a white boy who grew up in the streets bouncing from relative to relative, and David, a black boy who is stringy, tall, and smart, are talking.

JUSTIN  
So, tomorrow’s the big day?

DAVID  
(sarcastic)  
Yeah, I can’t wait.

JUSTIN  
Bro, change is good.

DAVID  
Not always.

CUT TO:

David walks away. Justin follows after David.

JUSTIN  
Hopefully you’ll get a going away  
present from Teresa?

FADE TO:

Flashes of David’s father Doug (a middle aged African American who is over worked trying to provide for his family) driving with a car packed full of their stuff leaving the rundown neighbor. He is thinking about a conversation he had with his wife Trish.

TRISH (V.O.)  
You sure we can do this.

DOUG (V.O.)  
If you help me. This is our chance.  
What do you want to do?

CUT TO:

Flash back of Doug throwing down a for sale sign in the back yard of a middle class neighborhood.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. DOUG'S CAR – MORNING

Doug is driving home early in the morning from one of his three jobs. He is yawning as he pulls up to a stop sign. While waiting for a car to turn he falls asleep. The car behind him (little old lady) honks her horn and Doug wakes up. Startled, he rubs his face and drives away.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S HOME – MORNING

Trish, a middle-aged African American woman who is married to Doug, opens David's bedroom door. David has his ear buds on and is listening to his I-Pod.

TRISH  
I'll be leaving soon for church.  
Do you want to come?

DAVID  
Really mom!

TRISH  
Never hurts to ask.

She smiles then walks over and sits next to him on the bed.

TRISH

Look you are too old not to understand why we moved here. I am sorry about your friends. But 2 more weeks of pity is all you gonna get. After that, momma's gonna have to go gangsta on you.

She puts her arms up showing her muscles.

CLOSE ON: Trish's biceps.

David smiles and shakes his head trying not to laugh.

DAVID

You're supposed to point your hand like a gun.

David demonstrates a gun gesture with his hand.

TRISH

I thought they called these guns.

She points at her biceps.

DAVID

Not in my day... maybe yours.

TRISH

That's not nice... I'm going to church and pray for you.

She stands up.

DAVID

Please do! I need all the help I can get.

She points at him.

TRISH

Don't make me take a week away from your pity grace period.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. BALTIMORE MIDDLE CLASS NEIGHBORHOOD - MORNING

It's been two months since they moved into their new home. Doug has a look of a well beat man that has put in a hard nights work. He opens the car door and looks out as if the task for getting out of the car might just be too much for him. He takes a deep breath then uses his last strength to get out of the car. He gets out of the car and looks around at his neighborhood - a clean, middle class, suburban street. He cracks a little smile as if to be proud of himself for living in that area.

Doug then walks to the back of the car to get a work bag from the trunk. Doug notices a white gentleman wearing a classy hat and a black expensive suit in an expensive and classy car pull up a car distance behind his car. The driver, Rick, nods his head to Doug. Doug is confused because he does not know the man. As Doug begins to walk over to Rick to see who he is, Doug's wife, Trish, walks out of their house towards the classy car.

DOUG

Do you know who this is?

CUT TO:

Rick in the car smiling and waving to Doug.

CUT BACK TO:

Trish

(while walking towards the car)

He's one of my church members.

I have to go. I am so late.

Trish jumps in the car and they leave without another word. Doug is confused but too tired to worry at this point. He goes into the house.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE FOYER – MORNING

When Doug closes the door from the inside, he turns around to run into his son David, who is leaving.

DOUG

Where are you going?

DAVID  
Meeting up with some people.  
I'm trying to fit in around here.

David walks out the door and closes it behind him.

DOUG  
This early in the morning?

David doesn't hear Doug but at this point Doug is too tired to even care. Doug sits down to take off his shoes.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. CHURCH - MORNING

Rick and Trish are walking up to the church together. Darlene, a church member meets them before they go up the church steps.

DARLENE  
Mrs. Johnson

RICK  
I'll be inside.

Rick goes up the steps and walks in.

CUT TO:

Trish walking up saying hi to people and waving.

INT. CHURCH - MORNING

RICK  
Trish... The reverend is looking  
for volunteers all this week to  
help out. I'm going to do it.  
What about you?

TRISH  
I'd like to but let me check with  
Doug first.

RICK

Oh I'm sure Doug would understand.  
After all, look how much the man  
upstairs has done for you. It's time  
to give back some.

Before Trish can respond to Rick, Amy, a church member and friend of Trish, walks up to Rick and Trish. Amy hugs Trish.

AMY

Trish? Do you want to go to the  
diner for lunch?

TRISH

Sure. That sounds good. Hey!  
Are you volunteering this week?

AMY

Volunteering this week? I didn't hear  
anything about that.

Amy notices Rick still his hat on.

AMY (CONT'D)

Oh, and Rick, please remove your hat.

RICK

Ah - Sorry.

Rick smirks behind Amy's back as Trish and Amy walk into the church.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. DOUG'S HOUSE – EARLY AFTERNOON

David and Trish come home at the same time.

TRISH

Did you have a good time?

DAVID

I guess. I met some new people, but it's too early to tell.

They walk together into the front door.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S LIVING ROOM - EARLY AFTERNOON

Doug is asleep sitting down on the couch with 1 shoe off and 1 shoe on. Trish and David are trying not to laugh as they see that Doug fell asleep trying to take his shoes off. David sneaks over to his Dad.

DAVID

(loudly)

Wake up!

Doug is startled and throws his shoe in the air. David starts laughing and Trish tries to hold back her laughter.

TRISH

David! That wasn't funny.

Doug is trying to adjust his eyes. David is laughing and running up the stairs.

DOUG

Boy. Pay back is coming your way.

TRISH

(concerned)

Doug... It's 1:30.

DOUG

Oh no!

Doug gets up, grabs his other shoe, and runs to the closet.

DOUG (CONT'D)

I have to go! I'm late.

Doug grabs a different shirt from the closet as he begins to run out the door with 1 shoe on and 1 shoe off. Trish is standing by the door with a leftover Styrofoam container.



TRISH

Here take this. I'm sure you haven't eaten.

DOUG

(surprised)

You bought me food?

TRISH

No...it's my leftovers from lunch. A few  
of us went out to eat after church.

Doug kisses her than goes out the door and heads towards his car. He puts his others shoe on and begins to unbutton his shirt as he gets in his car.

CUT TO:

Bob, their neighbor who is a small Asian man living by himself, is watching Doug leave. He is looking at his watch and writing down the time.

CUT BACK TO:

Doug drives off while changing his shirt. At a red light, he opens the food container to see a crust from a sandwich and a half eaten pickle. He shows disappointment and sadness in his face. The light turns green and he drives away.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DAVID'S ROOM - EVENING

David is working on the computer. Doug walks in with shorts on and just a t-shirt.

DOUG

It's pretty late. You might want  
to get to bed.

DAVID

I will. I just have to finish this.  
Finals are coming up.

DOUG

I understand and I'm proud of you.

David turns around to pick up a book on the table. His back is facing his Doug as he begins to talk.

DAVID

Dad – This is hard for me. YOU understand that you took me away from my friends? From people I grew up with? I know you want better for us but I...

David turns around to face Doug. Doug fell asleep up against the wall.

DAVID

(loudly and angrily)

Dad!

DOUG

(startled)

Yeah! Yeah! What? I'll do it!

DAVID

(frustrated)

Go to bed!

DOUG

Good talk son.

David turns back to work on his computer and mumbles under his breath.

DAVID

Whatever.

Doug is yawning as he leaves the room.

CUT TO:

Doug walks in the bathroom to freshen up. He splashes water in his face.

DOUG

(talking to himself in the mirror)

All right Dougman. Gotta wake up if you want some.

He hits his cheeks a couple of times and jumps up and down to get the adrenaline going. He checks himself out in the mirror looking at his chest and arms.

DOUG  
Looking good. Looking good.

He turns off the light and walks out the bathroom towards the bedroom.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG AND TRISH'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Trish is in bed setting the alarm clock. Doug walks in.

DOUG  
So baby...how's your mood?

TRISH  
(chuckling)  
The same as yours...tired.

DOUG  
That's it? Not even a tease?

TRISH  
First, the boy is still up. Second,  
you'll fall asleep...AGAIN!

DOUG  
Hey! That only happened twice.  
And you know how hard I've been  
working.

TRISH  
I know but I don't want there to be  
a third time and then have that mess  
with your ego.

Doug gives up and gets into bed as he mumbles.

DOUG  
Man works hard, can't get none,  
just work, work, work.

TRISH  
You're supposed to work.

Doug pulls the blanket on himself still mumbling.

DOUG

Supposed to be able to relax and enjoy  
my down time also.

TRISH

Go to sleep then you'll be relaxed.

Doug shakes his head. Trish picks up her bible and starts reading. She then puts it down on her lap and turns to Doug.

TRISH

Baby, I'm so---

She stops talking because she realized Doug is sound asleep already. David then walks into the bedroom.

DAVID

Mom. Justin just texted and he wants  
to come over and see our house.

TRISH

Now?!

DAVID

(chuckling)

No. Tomorrow.

TRISH

Oh! Of course. Just don't tell your Dad.  
You know how he feels about some of  
your friends from the old neighborhood.

DAVID

Cool. G'nite.

David starts to leave the room.

TRISH

David? How are things working out  
for you - with friends around here?

DAVID

They're stuck up but I'll deal.

TRISH

Dealing with people is how you get through life. There a good lesson here. Make sure you learn it.

DAVID

Life is full of lessons. You don't have to learn every single one.

TRISH

Come to church with me and you will learn a lot of good ones.

DAVID

I'm full of learning right now. G'nite.

David shuts the door and Trish puts the Bible on the night stand.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Doug wakes up and gets dressed. He goes to the kitchen. He looks through the refrigerator for food. He grabs items to make a sandwich. He quickly throws together bread and ham and then throws it into his lunch bag and leaves the house. He drives away.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF DOUG'S HOUSE - MORNING

David is taking out the trash when Justin suddenly appears across the front fence.

JUSTIN

Well look at my man!

David turns around to see his friend Justin from the old neighborhood.

DAVID

Hey! You made it.

Justin graciously jumps over the fence.

JUSTIN

I had to see this.

DAVID

You know... around here, we use  
the gate.

JUSTIN

Sorry...habit.

Justin looks around to the backyard.

JUSTIN

Wow! Nice backyard.

DAVID

It's ok. Come on. I'll show you.

They walk around. The backyard is cluttered with little kids toys and a lot of grass.

JUSTIN

Man...you could fit another house back here.

DAVID

I guess.

Justin looks over to the next yard and notices Bob.

JUSTIN

Hey! You're neighbor is out.

Bob is working in his back yard when he sees the boys looking at him. He then throws down his rake and runs away very fast.

JUSTIN

What's up with that? What's his  
problem?

DAVID

I don't know. He does that when  
I say hi also.

JUSTIN

It's entertaining. I like it.

JUSTIN

So what's with all this kid stuff?

DAVID

The previous family was foreclosed  
on and couldn't take everything.

JUSTIN

Cool...free stuff.

Justin walks over to the geodome and climbs right to the top.

JUSTIN

I always wanted one of these when  
I was little but my mom said to just  
climb the fence cuz' it's the same thing.

David chuckles.

CUT TO:

Bob running up the fence and taking quick pictures of the boys.

BOB

(screaming)

Go ahead! Try to steal something.  
I have evidence now.

Bob runs back towards his house.

CUT BACK TO:

DAVID

What the heck?

Justin is laughing.

JUSTIN

I love this place.

Justin pulls out a cigarette.

DAVID

Don't light that. He'll take another  
picture.

JUSTIN

Na-uh, really?

DAVID

Who knows. The guy's weird.  
Come on. Let me show you  
the inside.

Justin puts the cigarette away behind his ear.

JUSTIN

(worried)

So, your pops home?

DAVID

Would I be inviting you in  
if he was?

JUSTIN

Good point.

Justin climbs down and follows David to the front of the house.

CUT TO:

INT. FOYER - MORNING

David walks into his house. Trish is sitting in a chair reading the bible.

DAVID

Mom! Look what I found in the trash?

JUSTIN

Ah you got jokes.

TRISH

(excited)

Justin!

Trish gets up and hugs Justin.

TRISH

How have you been? How's your  
mom?



JUSTIN  
Ummm...She's cool. Same ol,  
same ol.

Justin looks over the house and quickly speaks to change the subject.

JUSTIN (CON'T)  
I love the place!

TRISH  
Yeah! The basement is still  
full of boxes even after 2 months.  
Its amazing how much stuff you  
find out you have when you  
move but it's getting there. You  
boys want something to eat.

JUSTIN  
Actually, after David shows me  
around, I was wondering if I could  
take him out to eat.

TRISH  
That sounds nice. David...go  
ahead and show Justin around.

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON: hand knocking on the front door.

Trish goes to the door and opens it. Rick is standing there.

TRISH  
Hi Rick. Did I forget something?

RICK  
No - I just collected some old clothes  
and was heading down to the shelter  
before church. I thought it might be  
better to pick you up early, that way  
you can help me.

TRISH  
(excited)  
The shelter?

RICK  
God's work is never done.

TRISH  
OK. I'll help you.

Trish yells towards David's direction.

TRISH  
David! Lock up when you leave  
and write a note for your Dad. Tell  
him I'm going to the shelter.

Trish grabs her purse and is about to step out of the door.

TRISH  
Rick, I have to come back and change  
before church tonight.

RICK  
You're helping God. I think you  
should be rewarded. I'll buy you  
a new outfit.

TRISH  
You don't have to do that.

RICK  
(sincere)  
I want to.

Rick is closing the door.

RICK (CONT'D)  
And you can change at my house.

CUT TO:

Justin standing in the entrance of the kitchen looking out watching Trish and Rick leave. David walks towards him.

DAVID  
Hey man why'd you come back in here?

JUSTIN

Who's that bitch with your mom?

DAVID

Some guy she knows from church.

JUSTIN

Your dad know about him? That guy  
is a creeper.

David blows it off.

DAVID

Whatevs man. Come here I want  
to show you my better so called life  
they gave me.

David has a joking attitude outlook of his new life. They walk away.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. PARK - DAYTIME

Doug is picking up trash at a park. One of his many jobs. He sees a father and son playing catch and feels down that he doesn't have time for that with his son.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. DOUG'S HOUSE - Daytime

David and Justin leave the house.

DAVID

Where are you taking me?

JUSTIN

It's a surprise?

Justin smiles as they are walking away.

DAVID

There better be a female at the end  
of this trip.

They walk around the corner and Doug pulls up. Bob is coming out of his house to get his paper.  
Doug parks and gets out of his car.

DOUG

Hey Bob!

Bob drops his paper and quickly runs back into his house.

DOUG

(Perplexed and says to himself)  
What the hell?

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE - DAYTIME

Doug comes into the house and no one is home.

DOUG

Hello... Hello...

He playfully starts to say hello in different voices to amuse himself but is still depressed he is all  
alone.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX BACK ALLEY – LATE AFTERNOON

Justin and David go behind a rundown apartment complex. David and Justin are walking down  
an alley.

DAVID

Where are we going man?

JUSTIN

It's my uncle's place. It's now my  
place too. See, you're not the only  
one who got a new crib.

They walk down some dirty step and go behind a rusty steel bar door. Justin walks in first. David looks back before going in. He is a little scared.

JUSTIN  
(smiling)  
I got to get my key out.

CLOSE ON: Justin pulling out a screwdriver from his back pocket.

David is worried.

DAVID  
Bro, what's going on?

David looks around to make sure no one is coming.

DAVID  
You breaking in?

Justin puts the screwdriver between the door and the frame.

JUSTIN  
I told you this is my place now.  
This is my key.  
(beat)  
For real, bro.

As Justin is pushing onto the door with the screwdriver, someone opens the door from the inside. David gets ready to run. A disturbing and dirty psycho looking man opens the door. It is Justin's Uncle Eric. Uncle Eric stares at the two boys for a second then starts to leave the apartment.

UNCLE ERIC  
Don't move anything. Who's he?

JUSTIN  
This is David. He's my friend but  
more like my brother.

Uncle Eric walks to David and stares him in the eyes.

UNCLE ERIC  
(to David)  
Don't move anything.

DAVID  
(suspiciously and frightened)  
OK.

Uncle Eric starts the leave then turns around as the boys are going into the apartment.

UNCLE ERIC  
(to David and Justin)  
I mean it.

Uncle Eric leaves. They shut the door.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT – LATE AFTERNOON

The apartment is full of newspaper piles, boxes of mail and dirty as hell.

DAVID  
He's weird.

JUSTIN  
No, what's weird is he actually DOES  
know if I do move something.

DAVID  
You've gotta be kidding. In here?

David looks around and tries to find a spot on the floor that is not covered in trash so he can walk. Justin chuckles.

JUSTIN  
Come on. My room is in the back.

CUT TO:

INT. JUSTIN'S CLOSET ROOM – LATE AFTERNOON

A small closet room with gallon paint cans, bags of recyclable soda cans, and rusty old tools are laying everywhere. A small pile of pillows and a blanket are in the corner.

DAVID  
You sleep here? It's a freakin closet.

JUSTIN

Hey. It's got concrete walls to protect me from the bullets and a roof over my head. It's all good.

David is confused as to why Justin is here.

DAVID

What about your mom?

JUSTIN

I don't know. She hooked up with some guy and said she would be back. That was 3 weeks ago.

DAVID

Oh man...I'm sorry.

JUSTIN

Hey! I didn't bring you here to feel sorry for me. I brought you here so you can appreciate what you have. Make something out of your life. You're so lucky you got out of this place.

Both of them pound fists with each other.

DAVID

Well, I have to go.

JUSTIN

Ok. Let's get you to the bus.

DAVID

Hey...I'm not some chick you have to walk to the front door.

JUSTIN

Actually we came in the back door.

Justin extends his arms to show David out of the basement door.

JUSTIN

After you Miss.

DAVID

Ha, ha.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEY – EARLY EVENING

Justin and David are at the back door.

JUSTIN

Now if we can just make it to  
the bus stop.

DAVID

Man. I am from here, remember.  
It's not that bad.

JUSTIN

(serious)

Seriously bro. You weren't from this  
area. Now we need to go 8 blocks  
that way just to get to the bus.

Justin points down the road.

CLOSE ON: Justin's P.O. V. with his hand pointing down the road and the roadway can  
be seen as to how dirty it is with a few gangsters hanging out on the sides a distance  
away.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

( a little laugh)

We came in the back because every  
time I come in the front I get shot  
at for no reason. Crazy, huh?

Justin gives a sad smile.

JUSTIN

Don't worry. I'll get you on the bus.

They begin to walk down the alley.

FADE OUT.



FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE - NOON

Doug is asleep on the couch when Trish comes home. Trish is waking up Doug.

TRISH

Doug! It's noon.

DOUG

Ok.

Doug gets up, rubbing his eyes.

DOUG

(in a sarcastic but joking manner)

Any left-overs for me today?

Trish is not affected by his remark and just continues.

TRISH

No but I can fix you something.

DOUG

Like you did this morning?

TRISH

What?

DOUG

You normally have something packed for me to take to work.

TRISH

I forgot. I'm sorry. I have a lot on my mind.

DOUG

YOU have a lot on your mind? I don't even know what day it is. (A bit louder)  
I work all the time and get no sleep.

David walks in.

DAVID

Well, I guess they were right. Money doesn't buy happiness.

Both Doug and Trish look at David.

DAVID

I'll be upstairs.

David runs upstairs.

TRISH

Now look.

DOUG

Well I guess he's right. A new place doesn't change old problems.

TRISH

What's that supposed to mean?

DOUG

3 jobs...

Doug points at himself, then to Trish.

DOUG

One part time job.

TRISH

Part-time paying job, full time mother, wife, dishwasher, house cleaner, launderer, chef - should I go on?

DOUG

All things...

Doug looks at his watch.

DOUG (CONT'D)

...that you are, at least you're not on a clock. I have to go...again!

TRISH

Me too! I'm going to church.

DOUG

That's another thing.

TRISH

Don't even go there. The Lord got us here.

DOUG

Maybe so, but my 3 jobs are keeping us here. And God doesn't ask for people to go to church everyday.

TRISH

I volunteer my time. It is the least I could do since he died for us.

DOUG

Must be nice to have time.

Doug grabs his keys and heads for the door.

TRISH

Wait!

(beat)

Can you drop me off at church?

DOUG

Are you serious? I am already late.

TRISH

Fine I'll call RICK he'll come and get me.

She turns around to walk away.

Doug slowly turns around and is shocked and upset by what she had just said.

DOUG

What?

Trish turns back to him.

TRISH

I said

(beat)

if you won't take me, Rick will do it.

Doug is very offended but just takes a deep breath as he doesn't want to say anything he might regret later.

DOUG  
Whatever? I have to go.

TRISH  
Bye.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF DOUG'S HOUSE - NOON

Doug comes out the door and towards his car. He is mad and it shows on his face. His neighbor Bob is outside by his car. He sees the mad Doug and fights with his keys to open his car door to get in his car before Doug can see him. He jumps in quick and ducks down.

Doug gets in the car and drives off. Bob pops his head up in the car window to see if the coast is clear.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S CAR - NOON

Doug is in the car. His cell phone is vibrating. Pete, a short, nerdy somewhat balding older white man, and a co-work of Doug, is calling him. Pete does not like Doug.

PETE  
Doug? It's Pete.

DOUG  
Yeah, Pete.

PETE  
We have a lady broken down in an alley over by 5th and Dale.

DOUG  
I don't have the truck. I'm not on until 8 tonight. I'm heading to a different job right now.

PETE

Doug, you're on-call today so you  
have to do this. If not, then we're done.  
Understand? -

DOUG

Yeah. (Softer voice) yeah I understand.

Doug looks at his watch.

DOUG

I'm heading over there now.

Doug hangs up the cell phone.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. ALLEY - AFTERNOON

A lady is sitting in her car looking around nervously. Doug drives up behind her in his car. She sees him through her rear view mirror. Doug gets out and she gets scared. Doug approaches her car window.

DOUG

Hey lady. You called for a tow?

She looks his way then she rolls down the window just a crack to hear him better.

LADY

Can I help u?

DOUG

I am here to help you. I am from  
Jerry's Towing.

LADY

(quickly looks at rear view  
Mirror then back to Doug)  
Ok- but you don't have a tow truck.

DOUG

Lady, I didn't have time to go back to

the lot to get one. I'm off duty but they called me anyway.

LADY

Well, how are you going to tow my car then?

DOUG

I'm not. I'm going to try and see if I can fix it first. If I can't, you're just going to have to wait for a truck. Now try to start it please.

CLOSE ON: Cell phone in Lady's hand with the numbers 911 on the screen and her thumb over the send button.

She closes her cell and tries to start the car but it just ticks.

DOUG

I think it's your battery. I'll try to give you a hot shot. Can you pop the hood?

She just stares at him.

DOUG

Can you please pop the hood?

She pops the hood. Doug walks in front of her car. She gets scared again not being able to see him. Doug notices one of her cables is loose. The lady opens her cell phone and dials 911 again and keeps her fingers over the send button.

Doug tightens up the cable and peaks his head around the hood. She covers her hand with the cell phone with her purse.

DOUG

Go ahead and try it.

She pulls her hand out from under the bag to start the car and it starts.

DOUG

There you go!

Doug closes the hood and walks back her window. She removes the bag and closes her cell phone.

LADY

Thank you.

DOUG

You're welcome. I'll tell you... I was a little nervous. The way you were acting, plus with a bag covering your hand, I was scared you had a gun and was going to shoot me or something.

LADY

That's funny. Without a truck, I had some bad thoughts about you too.

The lady was looking for a tip in her purse.

DOUG

Yeah - well just remember...not everyone is gonna yell "Give me all your money!"

Doug laughs. The lady was startled and suddenly throws her purse out the window.

LADY

Take everything!

Doug is shocked and speechless. Lady quickly drives away. Doug is looking her way then looks down at the purse. He starts to bend down to pick up the purse but then stops before touching it. He pulls out his cell phone and calls the police.

DOUG

I need to report a .... Purse throwing?

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. CHURCH - AFTERNOON

Trish is in the church arranging the bibles and cleaning the pews after church but she is in a little daze thinking about her and Doug's fight. Rick walks up to her.

RICK

Trish, come on, I'll take you home.

Darlene, a church member, walks over to grab the books from her.

DARLENE

Mrs. Johnson, I'll take them. I hope you  
feel better.

Trish is a little unsure but then decides to give Darlene the books and goes towards Rick.

TRISH

(to Darlene)

Thank you.

Rick and Trish walk out.

CUT TO:

EXT. RICK'S CAR - AFTERNOON

Rick opens the passage door for Trish.

RICK

Hey! I hope you don't mind.  
I want to stop by my house to  
show you my new hot tub.

TRISH

You have a hot tub? I've always  
wanted one of those.

RICK

Yeah they are great for relieving  
stress.

Rick gets in and is ready to start the car when Amy walks by waving bye to Trish.

TRISH

Hold on Rick.

Trish calls out to Amy.

TRISH

Amy! Can you give me a ride  
home?

Rick is confused.



RICK

I can take you.

AMY

Sure.

TRISH

Rick. Thank you but I need some girl talk right now.

Trish gets out of the car.

AMY

So what's going on?

TRISH

Doug and I are fighting.

Amy and Trish walk away. Rick is sitting in his car just watching Trish walk away when Crystal, a woman in her 20's who is also a church member but is a little bit trashy, comes up to Rick's car.

CRYSTAL

(a little seductively)

Oh Rick. I love your car.

RICK

You'll love it even more if you get in it.

CRYSTAL

OK.

She opens the door to get in. Rick is still watching Trish from a distance.

CRYSTAL

So where are we going?

RICK

It's a surprise.

He starts the car and they drive away.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S CAR – LATER AFTERNOON

Doug and Stacy, a late 20's sexy black female co-worker from one of his jobs, are sitting in Doug's car. He just pulled up in front of Stacy's house.

STACY

Thanks for dropping me off.

DOUG

No problem. I was on my way to my next job and you're along the way.

Doug yawns.

STACY

(being cute)

So... the other girls at work says you're pretty good at fixing things. You wouldn't have time to look at my pipes, would you?

Doug boyishly smiles.

DOUG

(playfully and smiling)

Your pipes?

Stacy embarrassingly smiles.

STACY

My sink.

Doug looks at his watch to check the time.

DOUG

Ummm....sure. I've got a lil' bit of time.

They both get out of the car and go into Stacy's house.

CUT TO:

INT. STACY'S HOUSE KITCHEN – LATE AFTERNOON

Stacy and Doug walk into Stacy's kitchen.

STACY

I've been keeping a bucket under there. Even if you can't fix it, maybe you can just tell me how much you think it would cost me, that would be a big help.

Stacy shows him the sink.

STACY

I'll be right back.

Stacy walks out. Doug opens the cabinet under the sink. He turns his hat around to get down to business.

CUT TO:

INT. STACY'S STAIRS – LATE AFTERNOON

Stacy comes down the steps.

CLOSE ON: Steps with a foot going into the shot slowly panning out as Stacy continues down the steps revealing her long, silky legs and then out into her very skimpy lingerie.

CUT TO:

Doug on his back on the floor under the sink trying to tighten the sink trap by hand.

CUT BACK TO:

Stacy walking into the kitchen and stands straddling over Doug.

STACY

Can I get you something?

Doug's P.O.V.: Doug looks up to see a pair of legs standing over him. He's surprised. He slowly peaks out to see if maybe she has no clothes on.

STACY

Would you like a drink?

DOUG  
(nervous)  
I...I...don't know.

STACY  
(in a flirty manner)  
How can you not know what you want?  
It's either a yes or a no.

Doug is staring her up and down.

STACY  
You know...One little drink won't hurt.

DOUG  
That's true, but...

Stacy bends down to sit on top of Doug.

STACY  
(very sexually suggestive)  
But what? You don't think I have anything  
that can quench your thirst? I can see you  
are just thirsty.

Doug doesn't move for a few seconds then quickly tries getting up and lightly pushing her up off of him.

DOUG  
I think I need to go.

Stacy gets offended by his remark and is now angry.

STACY  
You should! Offers like this don't  
come everyday baby. It was a free,  
hard, wet drink.

DOUG  
(nervously smiles)  
I have to go.

STACY  
You're an idiot.

CUT TO:

Doug is quickly walking towards the door as he mumbles under his breath.

DOUG  
No. I'm just married.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF STACY'S HOUSE – LATE AFTERNOON

Doug closes the door and stops in front to take a deep breath. He then starts to talk out loud.

DOUG  
God...if this was a test, it was a  
hard one. But I passed.

Doug smiles as he begins to walk away towards his car.

DOUG  
(proudly)  
I passed!

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. DOUG'S HOUSE – LATER AFTERNOON

Amy's car pulls up to Trish's house. Amy turns off the car.

TRISH  
So ...

AMY  
Trish it's a fight. You guys love  
each other.

TRISH  
I know it but he doesn't appreciate  
me.

AMY  
Look no matter what was said it only  
matters how you feel. If love your

guy, go in, change your clothes and  
cook him dinner.

TRISH

Why? He insulted me. I—

AMY

Trish, who's right and wrong doesn't  
matter. The dinner will make him say  
thank you and in that comes I am sorry.  
It's over and the make up begins.  
You know I am right. You've been  
married for years. The question is do  
you want to drag it out or start new?

TRISH

Yeah, why do we have to baby these  
guys?

AMY

(smiling)

It's what works.

Trish opens the door.

TRISH

I'll see you tomorrow.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. CITY STREET - EVENING

Doug is driving the tow truck now and pulls up to Brandy, a white female executive in her 30's, who is scared as her car broke down in a bad neighborhood. Doug pulls up to Brandy's car, gets out, and walks to her window.

DOUG

You called for a tow miss?

BRANDY

(in a serious tone)

Yes, but I was just hoping you could  
just jump me.

Doug, after just leaving the experience of Stacy, still has his mind in the gutter and chuckles at her statement.

DOUG  
(chuckling)  
Wow. I need to buy a lottery ticket today.

Brandy realizes what she had said and how Doug took it and immediately started to correct herself.

BRANDY  
Oh no!  
(embarrassed chuckle)  
That's not what I meant. I meant if you could just...

DOUG  
Miss. It's ok. I know what you mean.  
It just sounded funny. That's all. I'll hook you up.

Doug smiles.

BRANDY  
Oh...ok. Thank you.

Doug walks away to go to his truck. Brandy, after thinking a bit, changes her mood from being embarrassed to pissed off. She calls out to Doug out of her window.

BRANDY  
Excuse me !

Doug stops and turns around to come back to her window.

BRANDY  
Sir, you do realize I was a little scared  
and your demeanor was inappropriate.  
Do you know who I am?

DOUG  
I am sorry I had a crazy day I didn't  
mean anything.

BRANDY

I don't care what your day was like.  
Your job is to help me. If you don't  
like it do something else. My father  
owns your company.

DOUG

Miss again, I didn't mean anything  
and I do just want to help you. I'm  
going to get my truck and pull in front.

BRANDY

Hurry up please. I have been sitting here  
for awhile.

Doug goes back to his truck. Pete comes over the radio.

PETE

Doug to Pete, over.

Doug picks up his radio.

DOUG

Yeah Pete, over.

PETE

That last call was Mr. B's daughter so  
don't keep her waiting. Over.

DOUG

(angry and sarcastic)

Thanks for the input.

He throws the radio down then picks it back up.

DOUG

Over.

Doug gets in the truck and starts it to move the truck around the front of her car.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S KITCHEN – LATE EVENING



Doug is walking into the kitchen and sees Trish. She just puts his food on the table but is not talking to him. There is tension in the air. Doug sits down to eat but he is frustrated. He has to talk to her. He gets up and walks up to her.

DOUG

Look. I'm sorry for what I said.  
I'm over worked, I've had no sleep,  
and I'm just really really stressed out.  
Remember, we got this house after  
someone lost it. They couldn't pull it  
off. I'm doing the best I can to keep  
it for us and for the boy to have a  
better...

Trish cuts him off.

TRISH

I understand. I know the bigger picture  
- giving our son opportunities we didn't  
have. Trust me. As a mother that is my  
number 1 priority. But you have to know  
we appreciate all you do without wanting  
us to always show it.

DOUG

I know but I do feel unappreciated. Look.  
I even eat alone.

He points at his plate.

TRISH

You want me to sit down and eat? I  
already ate but if you want me to then  
I'll sit down and eat.

DOUG

That's not my point.

TRISH

You don't have a point. You're just  
frustrated. We all get that way. In life  
we all just do the best we can.

DOUG

I don't get any time with you.  
We pass each other every day.

TRISH

We're busy. It's been like that.  
And to keep this house it will be like  
that for a...

DOUG

(cutting off Trish)

I know! I just want more....

TRISH

(cutting off Doug)

Two more days and on Saturday you  
can rest up. We'll leave you alone and  
you can sleep all day.

DOUG

Do I have to spell it out? I'm stressed  
and I want to sleep with my wife!

TRISH

(small laugh)

Yeah but YOU don't understand that  
THAT stresses me out because you  
just fall asleep in the middle of it.

DOUG

Are you ever going to let me hear the  
end of that?

TRISH

No! Haven't you heard...  
a happy wife means a happy life.

They both smile.

DOUG

I love you.

TRISH

I love you too.

(beat)

I admit...we have been a bit distant

lately. We both need to work on that.  
We have to be honest and communicate  
more.

DOUG

Yes... among other things.

Doug and Trish give each other a quick peck on the lips.

TRISH

So... anything new happen at work?

DOUG

Which one?

Doug laughs a little.

DOUG

No. Not really.

Doug thinks about it. Flashes of Stacy and Mr. B's daughter goes through his head. He just  
patched up thing with Trish so now might not be the best time to talk about his crazy day.

DOUG (CONT'D)

It's the same thing, just a different day.  
You know... I'm really looking forward  
to this weekend but on Monday everything  
starts all over again.

Trish walks to the refrigerator while Doug sits down at the table.

TRISH

What do you want to drink?

DOUG

Anything.

Trish reaches into the refrigerator.

TRISH

Life is a never ending uphill battle.  
Once it's stops, it's over. We are  
blessed with what we have and we  
just do the best we can. We're no  
different than anyone else in this world.

DOUG

Yeah. But it would be nice to be different.

Trish sits down at the table.

DOUG

Again...I'm sorry for how I acted. You and David are everything to me. I don't know what I would do if I lost you two.

TRISH

You're a good dad and a good husband. We aren't going anywhere.

DOUG

I'm just saying...you guys are the reason why I pick up garbage and take shit from...

Trish cuts him off.

TRISH

Watch your language. Say bad stuff and you don't get good stuff.

She smiles

DOUG

Sorry...Sorry...

TRISH

Can you please eat or do you want me to keep talking about all the things I do around this house?

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. TOWING SHOP - MORNING

Doug walks in. Pete has a big smile on his face.

PETE

Mr. Britcherd is looking for you.

DOUG  
Ok. Is he in his office?

Mr. Britcherd, a short, older white man, walks out.

BRITCHERD  
(to Pete)  
Pete, go do something.

Pete walks around the corner and stops to try to listen in on their conversation.

BRITCHERD  
Doug...have a seat.

Doug sits down. Doug figures he was going to get chewed out about the daughter or the lady with the purse.

BRITCHERD  
Pete informed me about what happened with the purse situation.

Doug quickly gets up.

DOUG  
(defensively)  
Ok, listen. I waited there until the cops came to pick up her purse. I wasn't even supposed to be working.

Mr. Britcherd steps back in case Doug tries to swing at him.

BRITCHERD  
Ya, ya. Please sit back down.

Mr. Britcherd paces a little and is about to lay things out for Doug.

BRITCHERD  
Doug...This is my company and -

Doug cuts off Mr.Britcherd.

DOUG  
Sir, I'm working 3 jobs to try and take care of my family.

BRITCHERD

So what. That's what we're all doing is taking care of our families. I've been there and done that. I've raised myself up from nothing. Now I own my own business. When you screw things up for my company, you're messing things up for me to take care of my family. Understand?

Doug hangs his head down.

BRITCHERD

You have to sacrifice things to get where you want to be. When we have work for you and you're on-call, you need to be available. I'm paying you.

DOUG

I know that. I'm doing the best that I can to be there for everybody.

BRITCHERD

I'm sorry but that really isn't my problem. You want to work for my company, then you need to do what we need when we need it.

DOUG

I did!

BRITCHERD

I'm not finished. There are plenty of other people that will gladly take your job. You're not special. So you can drive a truck And?

DOUG

Sir. I appreciate this job. I don't know what Pete told you but it wasn't a big deal. I fixed the lady's car.

BRITCHERD

I understand that but cops being involved makes my company look bad. That's why I'm having this talk with you. Don't joke with the customers. Just fix it or tow it

and keep your mouth shut. Do your job!

DOUG

Ok sir. I'm sorry.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. DOUG'BACKYARD – LATE AFTERNOON

David is trying to start a lawnmower. Since he never used one before, he doesn't know how to start it.

CUT TO:

Justin is walking along the street in front of David's house. Justin sees David and motions for someone to keep coming but to keep quiet. Justin hops the fence and walks towards David.

CUT BACK TO:

Bob is watching but he is hiding behind the tree on the fence behind the shed. David knows it.

DAVID

(to the neighbor without looking at him)

I see you over there.

David is playing around with the neighbor.

DAVID

Don't make me come and get you.

David pretends to start the lawnmower but instead starts running to the fence. David looks behind the shed but no Bob.

JUSTIN

He's still at it, huh?

DAVID

(surprised)

What? What are you doing here?

JUSTIN

Surprising you.

DAVID

You took 3 buses to surprise me?

They lock hands and bump shoulders as friends. Sounds of tree branches cracking before it breaks can be heard in the background. Then WHAM – sound of a body hits the ground. Bob falls out of the tree.

JUSTIN

That guy is nuts.

Bob gets up from the ground.

BOB

That didn't hurt.

JUSTIN

They'd shoot him if he was in my neighborhood.

BOB

I heard that!

Both David and Justin start laughing. Bob runs off.

BOB

That sounded like a threat and it will hold up in court.

Bob disappears around his house.

DAVID

Where is he?

JUSTIN

I can't see him but you got built-in entertainment here. -- Hey! Watch this. I'm about to make that guy go even more crazy.

DAVID

No! Whatever you're thinking...don't.

JUSTIN

Chill - it's not what you do, it's who you do it with.



David tries to divert Justin by changing the topic.

DAVID

So you going to help me with this lawn mower or not?

JUSTIN

Hell no. I'm the same as you. I don't know how to start that thing. But I do know what my man needs.

CUT TO:

Bob pops his head out is house window.

BOB

Drug buy! Drug buy! I'm calling the cops!!

CUT BACK TO:

JUSTIN

Man! Shut up.

Justin turns back to face David.

JUSTIN

It's the ladies!

Justin turns around with his hand extended as if to show off something. Nikkie and Teresa, old friends from his old neighborhood come walking around the house. Nikkie is a white girl that has tattoos all over her body and is wearing skimpy mix-matched clothes. Teresa is a smart, pretty, black girl that was David's old girlfriend but she does have attitude. David's eyes light up.

DAVID

Oh my God!

CLOSE ON: David's face with a big kid smile.

CUT TO:

Bob runs up to the fence taking pictures then runs away.

NIKKIE

What the?

TERESA

This place is weird.

NIKKIE

Oh no. This place is GREAT! I walk down the street and everyone watches me from the window. Now I got paparazzi's taking my picture. It's like I'm famous.

JUSTIN

See...I knew my boy was missing some old friend.

DAVID

You've always got my back man.

They do another hand shake bump.

JUSTIN

Always. What are brothers for?

NIKKIE

Teresa! Let's go in front so the neighbors can see ya!

Teresa smiles and shakes her head from side to side.

NIKKIE (CONT'D)

(to David and Justin)

You think more of them will have cameras?

JUSTIN

Hell, this neighborhood? They'd be videoing your ass.

Nikkie runs around to the front of the house. David becomes very concerned. Justin turns back to David.

JUSTIN

Don't worry. I'll make sure she keeps her clothes on....

Justin starts walking around the house then turns back.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

...this time.

Justin smiles then jogs around to the front. Teresa and David are staring at each other.

TERESA

Well...say something.

DAVID

You look good.

TERESA

That's it?

David shyly hangs his head down but lifts his eyes up to Teresa and has a small smile.

DAVID

I missed you.

TERESA

Well, my number hasn't changed in the last couple of months.

DAVID

(a little defensive)

I texted you a few times.

TERESA

Yeah but I wanted to hear your voice.

DAVID

I was afraid.

TERESA

Let me see - you figured that with the distance, it was only a matter of time before we break up, so it's better to get it from a text than to hear right?

DAVID

(surprised she understood)

Well...yeah!

TERESA

Well, the same goes for me. That's why I didn't call you.

Teresa and David stare at each other for a moment trying to read each other's face then David smiles and she throws her arms around him and they kiss.

CUT TO:

Bob is still lurking around his back deck watching David and Teresa.

BOB

Public display of affection is prohibited in this neighborhood. No PDA's!

CUT BACK TO:

TERESA

Who is that?

CUT TO:

BOB

I'm going to tell your dad! It's in the homeowner's association manual! No PDA's!

CUT TO:

DAVID

Man! Who you kidding? You won't even wave hi to my dad!

Teresa and David look at each other and go back to kissing.

CUT TO:

BOB

I have my manual that I can show you!

Bob starts taking pictures again and tries to get a better picture by hanging off the side of his deck but then falls off.

BOB

You're in trouble now!

CUT TO:

Justin and Nikkie come back around to the back of the house. Nikkie is walking clutching her crotch area and walking like a penguin.

JUSTIN

Hey man! You better let my girl in before she takes a piss out here and it winds up on the internet.

They all walk towards the front of the house.

FADE OUT

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE

Nikkie walks down the steps after using the bathroom upstairs.

NIKKIE

Phew! That's better. Thanks.

TERESA

The house is nice...and bigger.

NIKKIE

Hell yeah!

David looks at the time. He is concerned because his father may come home any minute to discover David's old neighborhood friends in the new home.

DAVID

Um...you guys....

Justin reads David's cue.

JUSTIN

All right man! We gotta go. Gotta catch the bus, you know.

TERESA

(a little offended)

No...I think Daddy's coming home.

Nikkie maybe be trashy but she get's the cue too and tries to smooth things over.

NIKKIE

Girl. You know it's me. People just get the wrong message when they look at all this beauty.

TERESA

(smiling)

Yeah..whatevs.

Teresa turns and walks out the door. David silently lips "thank you" to Nikkie who gives him a wink.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT OF DOUG'S HOUSE

Justin goes down the steps followed by Teresa. As Nikkie comes down the steps, she pushes pass them to be the center of attention. Bob is in the bushes on the side of his house.

NIKKIE

Shit! I hope that guy takes another picture of me before we leave.

Nikkie opens the gate and starts posing along the fence when she spots Bob around the corner of his house.

NIKKIE

Hey! There he is.

Nikkie starts running towards Bob's house. Justin looks at Teresa with wide eyes as if to tell her to go after Nikkie.

JUSTIN

Teresa?

Teresa rolls her eyes and then goes after Nikkie.

CUT TO:

DAVID

Thanks man.

JUSTIN

I told you I've always got your back.  
Plus I heard she's been calling up  
Curtis lately.

DAVID

Curtis?

JUSTIN

That's the other reason I brought her  
here... to remind her of the "goods".

Justin points up and down David's body to represent the "goods". David laughs. Nikkie goes running down the side of Bob's house and Bob is trying to get over his fence. Teresa's voice can be heard from the distance.

TERESA (V.O.)

Nikkie! Get off the fence.

Justin and David look at each other. David motions Justin to go after them.

CUT TO:

Nikkie is trying to climb the fence as Bob is running away after having jumped over his own fence.

NIKKIE

Take it baby. Take it. Take the  
damn picture.

CUT BACK TO:

JUSTIN

(smiling)

I got's this.

David smiles and watches Justin jump over the fence to get to the girls quicker.

CUT TO:

Justin pulling Nikkie off the fence.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S KITCHEN – EARLY EVENING

David is getting a drink when Doug walks in the house. David has a worried look. Doug walks in the kitchen.

DOUG

I thought you were going to help me out.

DAVID

I was just getting a drink. Look out back I have the lawnmower out.

DOUG

You had all day. It's starting to get dark out.

DAVID

I am still trying to get it started.

Doug rubs his face.

DOUG

Forget it. I'll do it myself.

Doug walks out. David is confused.

DAVID

What the heck?

Trish comes up from the basement.

TRISH

David is your dad home? I thought I heard him.

David looking frustrated starts to walk out of the kitchen.

DAVID

Yeah. He's cutting the grass.

TRISH

I thought you were doing that.



David stops and turns around towards Trish.

DAVID

Me too. But hey he doesn't need  
my help.

TRISH

David...

David leaves. Trish looks outside at Doug trying to get the lawnmower started.

CLOSE ON: Doug trying to start the lawnmower. Point of view of Trish – window shot.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN

INT. DOUG'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Trish is in bed when Doug comes in and lies down.

TRISH

For someone who complains about  
working so hard, you really don't  
know how to stop and let go  
so we can help you.

Doug turns over to face her.

DOUG

Now what? I am not bothering you  
about any love making I just want  
to sleep.

TRISH

Why were you cutting the grass?

Doug leans up on his arm.

DOUG

Someone had to.

TRISH

Your son was trying.

DOUG  
He said he couldn't start it.

TRISH  
So you help him. Stop trying to do  
it all then blaming us for not doing  
anything.

DOUG  
You guys are taking it wrong. Yeah  
I had a rough day. I just need to get  
everything done. I wasn't mad at him.

Trish looks at Doug.

DOUG  
Ok a little bit but I... Fine.

Doug gets up and leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. DAVID'S ROOM - EVENING

Doug walks in but David isn't there. Doug walks out and closes the door but then hears something in the bedroom. David just came in through the window and is about to open his closet when Doug opens the door suddenly with a fist in the air.

DAVID  
(jumping back)  
What the hell?

DOUG  
Yeah. What the hell is right.

DAVID  
You scared me to death.

DOUG  
Better than beating you to death. Which  
almost happened.

DAVID  
I can explain.

DOUG

Me first, I am sorry I did not show you how to start the lawnmower. Sometimes we all just don't think enough. Thank you for trying to help.

Doug goes to leave.

DAVID

Is that it?

Doug stops and turns around.

DOUG

You want more? I can talk more.

DAVID

No I am good.

DOUG

Plus I figured what I said kinda sums it up on both sides. Just try not to make too many mistakes. And please use the door. I don't need more things around here to fix.

David nods his head.

DAVID

I'm down with that. Because it's not easy getting up here.

David smiles.

DAVID

What about mom?

DOUG

As long as you didn't make her a grandmother tonight, she doesn't need to know.

David grabs his dad's shoulder.

DAVID

Thanks Dad.

DOUG

Oh. There is one more thing. If you ever leave this house again and don't tell either your mom or me where you are going, I will have to break both of your legs.

David chuckles.

DAVID

Ok Dad.

DOUG

David, I have insurance for you. It's a waste of money if we don't use it. You have my word boy...

Doug get's right in David's face.

DOUG (CONT'D)

I will break them. Your Mom and I love you. We will protect you even from yourself.

Doug turns toward the door.

DOUG (CONT'D)

No officer, I didn't know it was my son coming in. I thought it was a burglar. It's a shame I broke his legs. I feel so bad.....

Doug is now outside David's door but he turns around to David.

DOUG (CONT'D)

What do you think? Think they'll by that one? I will sell it more when I'm talking to them.

DAVID

You honestly have me scared.

Doug walks away smiling.

DOUG  
Love hurts sometimes. Remember that....

FADE OUT

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Doug walks still smiling and get's into bed.

TRISH  
So what happen?

DOUG  
I apologized and we bonded. I think  
he's still thinking about our talk right  
now.

TRISH  
Good! See, that makes me happy. And  
when I am happy...

She leans over to kiss him.

TRISH (CONT'D)  
I can make you happy.

Doug and Trish begin to kiss passionately as they lean back to lie down on the bed. Doug is on top of her when his cell phone goes off.

DOUG  
No...not tonight.

Doug picks up the phone.

DOUG  
This is Doug.  
(a few beats)  
Yeah..... Ok on my way.

He leans back over to kiss her and gets out of bed.

DOUG  
Never ending. Sorry baby.

TRISH  
Be careful. God will find a way  
to help us.

Doug is dressing.

DOUG  
I hope he hurries up.

Trish gives him a mad look.

DOUG  
Sorry...

Doug is dressed and heads out the bedroom door.

DOUG  
I love you.

TRISH  
Love you too.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. DOUG'S NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAYTIME

Two girls, Patty and Lisa, are walking up the street towards Doug's house with a male friend, Calvin following them. Patty is a white female with dark hair and a tattoo on her neck. She's got a bitchy look to her. Lisa is a white female who looks very cute and innocent, although she is not. Calvin is a bulky white male who recently was dumped by Lisa. Calvin is very angry and jealous.

PATTY  
(to Calvin)  
Go home!

CALVIN  
No! I want to see where SHE is going.

Calvin is pointing at Lisa who is his ex-girlfriend.

LISA  
Away from you, that's where.

CUT TO:

Rick is sitting in his car in front of the house waiting for Trish. The 2 girls walk into the gate of Doug's yard. Calvin stops just before the gate starts and angrily kicks the side gate. As he is kicking the gate, Rick yells to him.

RICK  
Young man... do you need someone  
to talk to?

CALVIN  
Go to hell old man!

Rick just smiles as Calvin walks back down the street away from the house. He looks back a couple of times at Lisa and Patty.

Lisa and Patty peek back to make sure Calvin is leaving. They then head up the steps and knock on David's front door. Trish opens the door.

LISA  
Is David home?

TRISH  
(calling to David)  
David!! Your friends are here to see you.

Trish grabs her purse as David comes to the door. They both walk out of the house together.

TRISH  
I'll see you later. Be good.

DAVID  
(embarrassed)  
Ok mom. Go.

Trish smiles at David and walks towards Rick's car.

CUT TO:

RICK  
New friends?

TRISH

Yeah. He said he met them at the library.

Rick and Trish drive away.

CUT BACK TO:

Lisa, David and Patty are all sitting on David's front steps. Lisa is being cute and flirty but Patty is giving off an attitude for even being there.

LISA

So... I was wondering ... there's this party happening this weekend and I wanted to see if you wanted to go with me.

PATTY

Oh please - don't be too forward.

DAVID

Yeah...I know it's supposed to be the guys who is supposed to ask the girl out.

LISA

Sorry ... but I waste no time if I know what I want.

DAVID

(shocked)

Wow. I don't know what to say.

LISA

Say yes. I need someone with me.

David thinks about it. He doesn't know why this girl is so interested but she is cute. Patty is rolling her eyes.

LISA

C'mon. It'll be fun. I need this favor. I'll owe you one. And I can introduce you to more people around here.

PATTY

Why don't you just leave him alone?



You can see he doesn't want to go.

DAVID

(defensive yet reluctant)

No. No. It's ok, I guess. I'll go.

LISA

Great!

PATTY

(disgusted by Lisa's request to David)

Oh my God!

Patty walks away and uses her cell phone. Lisa sits on the steps with David talking. She grabs his arm and snuggles up to him.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Trish walks in to see Doug putting his shoes on.

TRISH

Oh no. Back out again?

DOUG

Yeah.

TRISH

Too bad. I thought we could have a little alone time.

Doug throws his shoes off.

DOUG

Let's go

TRISH

(smiling)

Don't you have to go?

DOUG

Hey you can't tease me and think I am not going to take you up on it.

Trish pushes him back.

TRISH

Go to work. We have this weekend.  
I promise.

DOUG

Something will always come up.  
Let's take care of what's up now.

Doug Smiles. Trish laughs.

TRISH

You are too much and you are going  
to be late.

DOUG

Yeah and I have 2 other jobs if I lose  
this one. So what's the problem?

TRISH

The problem is we need all 3.

DOUG

Maybe.

Doug gives a cunning smile.

TRISH

What? Did we hit the lottery and  
you didn't tell me?

Doug comes close and holds Trish. Trish knows it's something good and is anticipating good news.

DOUG

No. But.. I wasn't going to tell you  
that I do have an interview coming  
up and if I get it I can get rid of these  
3 and just have one. Means more time  
at home and more time with you and  
the boy.

TRISH

Oh my goodness! That would be great!  
Why didn't you want to tell me?

DOUG

I wanted to surprise you. Plus, I  
didn't want to get your hopes up  
in case I don't get it.

TRISH

Yeah but I can pray for it. It helps.  
Look how much GOD's given us  
so far.

Doug and Trish kiss.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. CHURCH – MORNING

A sermon is being held and Amy and Trish are praying at the church with other church members.  
Rick comes in the middle of the sermon and sits down next to them.

RICK

Sorry. I wasn't blessed with a  
good bladder.

TRISH

Shhhhh.

Both Amy and Trish have their eyes closed praying. When they open them they see Rick is  
wearing his hat again.

AMY

Do you wear your hat to the bathroom?

Trish motions Rick to remove his hat.

RICK

Sorry.

Rick rolls his eyes.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. STREET IN FRONT OF DOUG'S HOME - DAYTIME

Two detectives get out of their unmarked car and walk towards Doug's house. Doug has just walked out of his house and is getting ready to get into his car when two guys, Detective John Parks and Detective Fred Peterson, approach him.

DET. PARKS

Excuse me...

DOUG

(rushing to get to his interview)

Sorry but whatever you are selling, I don't have time. I'm going to a job interview.

Doug opens his car door.

DET. PETERSON

Sir - I'm Detective Peterson, and this is Detective Parks. We are looking for the family of David Johnson.

DOUG

That's my son.

Doug is worried.

DET. PARKS

Mr. Johnson...can we go into the house?

They all just look at each other.

DET. PETERSON

Sir... please.

Doug slams the car door shut and walks back towards the house. The detectives follow him.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. CHURCH - DAYTIME

RICK is waiting at the bottom of the church steps for Trish and Amy.

RICK

What a great day. Anyone up for lunch?

TRISH

No. I need to get home. I promised Doug I'd spend more time at home.

AMY

That's good. You two need time together. Everyone should always nurture their relationship.

RICK

(a sly smile)

So, let's get you home.

Amy and Trish hug.

AMY

Rick? I'll meet you at the diner?

RICK

Nah - I forgot I have something to do.

AMY

(happy)

Oh ok. I'll see you guys tomorrow. Same time, same place.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S KITCHEN - NOON

Trish walks in and notices that the house seems off.

TRISH  
Doug? Baby? You home yet?

Trish walks in the kitchen and finds Doug leaning over the sink.

TRISH  
You're home!  
(beat)  
Oh no. The interview went bad.

DOUG  
I didn't go.

TRISH  
Why? Did you get called in to work?

DOUG  
I'm not going to work. Not today.

TRISH  
Wait...What aren't you telling me?

Doug remains quiet. Trish looks at him puzzled.

TRISH  
What Doug? What's going on?

Doug doesn't say a word. Trish gives up.

TRISH  
OK. Fine. Then where's David?  
He was supposed to get back  
sometime this morning from his  
friend's house.

Trish calls out for David.

TRISH  
David? David?  
(to Doug)  
Have you heard from him? And  
why aren't you looking at me?

Doug slowly turns around to look at Trish and then tears start falling down Doug's face. Trish stares at Doug for a bit and comes to a realization. She starts to slowly shake her head from side to side.

TRISH  
Where's David?

Trish starts walking away to go to David's room. Doug runs after her.

TRISH  
David! David!

DOUG  
Baby! Stop!

TRISH  
No! No! It can't be. I don't want to hear it!

Doug grabs her and hugs her hard. Trish tries to pull away as she screams no. She then starts beating his back.

TRISH  
Not my boy!

Trish is crying on the floor with Doug holding her.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE

Amy is knocking at the front door of Trish's house. Doug opens the door.

AMY  
Hi. I'm Amy. A friend of Trish  
from church. You must be Doug.  
I was hoping to speak to her.

DOUG  
I'm sorry but I can't get her to speak  
to anyone.

AMY  
Oh...well, what about you? Do

you need to talk to anyone? It helps.

Doug thinks about it.

DOUG  
Nothing's going to help.

AMY  
God can help.

DOUG  
God let it happen!

AMY  
True, but there's always a reason.

DOUG  
Sorry miss but you need to go.

Trish starts to come down the stairs. Trish sees Amy.

TRISH  
I don't want to see anyone.

Trish sits down on the steps. Amy looks at Doug.

AMY  
Please?

Doug steps back and Amy goes over to the steps to console Trish.

AMY  
I just want you to know we're here for you. We're all here for you.

TRISH  
You don't understand.

AMY  
But I do.....I lost my little girl not too long ago. She was only 3. We were playing outside and the dog got tangled in his leash. It



was only a moment. I didn't see  
the ball roll into the street and she...

Amy tries to hold back tears. She takes a couple of deep breaths to shake it off.

AMY (CONT'D)

Anyway, afterwards I couldn't and  
wouldn't get out of bed. I completely  
isolated myself because of the pain.  
It drove my husband away and my  
parents ended up taking care of me.  
I didn't even speak to anyone for over  
a year. So I understand.

Amy and Trish hold each other for a bit, crying.

TRISH

Why my boy?

AMY

I'm sorry. I don't have that answer.  
It's been 4 years for me and it doesn't  
really get any easier but you have to  
keep going.

Trish buries her face in tissues.

AMY

If you want me to leave, I'll leave.  
But please... let me come back in a  
few days. We don't even have to talk.  
Just let me sit here with you. I want  
to be here for you.

Trish looks up at her.

AMY

The experience we have and the feeling  
of love is all we can take with us.

Amy puts her hand out and reaches out to Doug.

CLOSE ON: Amy's hand reaching to Doug and Doug grabbing at it.

AMY

Come here.

TRISH

I don't want him near me!

AMY

This man loves you. Look at him.

TRISH

I can't! When I look at him I see  
my boy.

Trish gets up and runs back upstairs.

AMY

(to Doug)

I'm sorry.

DOUG

Miss...

AMY

Amy.

DOUG

Amy... I think you helped even though  
it might not seem like it.

AMY

I know this is very hard on you too.  
Just remember, we all die and we'll all  
be together again. We just have to live  
while we can to appreciate the gift of  
life. Once we get that message through  
Trish, things will get better.

DOUG

I don't see how things can get worse.

AMY

They can always be worse. Just try  
everyday to get her to talk to me. We  
have to start somewhere. I'll call everyday.  
Maybe she'll talk, maybe she won't but  
it's a start.

DOUG

Thank you. Sincerely...thank you.

AMY

Would you like to pray with me?

DOUG

In all honesty, I don't think I'm at that level right now. But I appreciate everything you've done.

AMY

Here's my number so if you need anything you can always call me.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE - MORNING

It's been a few days. Trish finally comes down from upstairs in a daze. She walks towards the kitchen. Doug is sitting on the couch.

DOUG

Can I get you something?

She falls to the couch crying. Doug tries to comfort her as he cries with her.

DOUG

We have to have faith in God.

She pushes Doug off and runs up the stairs.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S KITCHEN - DAYTIME

Doug is looking for something in the drawer. There's a knock on the door. Doug goes to answer it. Rick is at the door asking about Trish.

RICK

Hey. I'm very sorry to hear about what happened. I want you both to know that the church is taking up a collection to help you guys out in this time of need.

DOUG

Man, I appreciate you coming over but this isn't the time.

RICK

Look - my main focus is to get your wife back out there. Remorse can be so strong that some people have had strokes and actually followed their loved ones in death. I've seen it before and I'm sure you don't want that.

DOUG

You've got a point. Give me a minute.

Doug shuts the door on Rick's face and goes upstairs.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S BEDROOM – DAYTIME

Doug gently wakes Trish.

DOUG

Baby? Rick's here. Do you want to talk to him?

Trish wakes up and looks around the room. She starts crying again.

TRISH

I don't want to talk to anybody.

Doug leaves the room.

CUT BACK TO:

Doug is coming down the stairs and heads towards the front door. Doug opens the door but Rick isn't there. Doug shuts the door and turns around to see Rick is walking back towards the front door coming from the kitchen.

RICK

I hope you don't mind. I got something to drink.

Doug is irritated.

DOUG

She doesn't want to see you and neither do I. There's the door or the window buddy - take your pick.

RICK

I'm just trying to be nice and help. Why do you have to have a chip on your shoulder?

DOUG

Better a chip on my shoulder than a foot up your ass.

Doug opens the door for him.

RICK

Don't blame me for having more to offer her.

Doug shoves Rick out the door and slams the door behind him.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S LIVING ROOM - DAYTIME

A couple of weeks have passed. Trish, Rick, and Amy are on the couch. Doug walks in from outside. Rick has his arms around Trish.

RICK

All we need to do is pray. We need to come closer. We need to embrace each other. We need to be there for each other.

DOUG

Wo! Wo! What's going on here?

AMY

We need to be together. We need to know we have love for each other.

DOUG

I don't want that guy touching MY WIFE!

RICK

This is about the healing and her moving on.

Doug is offended.

DOUG

Moving on? To what?

TRISH

I need to heal. Don't you understand?  
I lost my son!

Doug loses it.

DOUG

(sarcastically)

I lost my son?

(angry)

No.... WE lost OUR son!

DOUG (CONT'D)

I cook, I clean up after you, I do the laundry, I work, I do everything cuz' all you do is stay in bed all day so you can mourn. When is it my time to mourn?!

TRISH

I can't be here! You don't understand what I'm going through.

DOUG

You're right. But at least I try to understand.

Doug walks out.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE - DAYTIME

Doug comes back home and goes to David rooms. He sits on his bed and looks around. He looks at the pictures on his wall with his friends.

CLOSE ON: picture of David and Justin on the wall.

He then picks up David's pillow and hugs it. He starts to cry but catches himself. He puts the pillow back down and leaves the room. He goes to his bedroom to apologize to Trish but then he notices she is not there and that some of the drawers were left open. He walks over and sees that her drawers were empty. He quickly rushes to the closet to see a lot of her clothes are gone. He falls back onto the bed in shock and drops his head into his hands.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. DOUG'S HOUSE – EARLY AFTERNOON

Justin finds the nerve to visit Doug. Justin is standing in front of the door debating whether to knock or not. He knocks on the door. Doug opens it to find Justin trying to hold his composure. They stare at each other for a bit.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S FRONT DOOR

Doug snaps and grabs the kid right off the step and pulls him in the house and slams him up against the front door.

DOUG

You have a lot of nerve boy! A  
lot of nerve!

JUSTIN

I'm coming to pay my respects. I  
couldn't go to the funeral because I  
knew how you felt about me.

DOUG

You didn't deserve to be there.

JUSTIN

The hell I didn't. He was like my brother.

Doug grabs Justin and throws him up against the front door.

DOUG

A brother? Brother's are supposed to watch out for each, take care of each other, protect each other.

JUSTIN

I don't know what you're thinking but this wasn't my fault.

Doug, with a fist in the air, looks like he's about to hit Justin.

JUSTIN

I don't know why he was there. He shouldn't have been. I told the police there is no way he would be in that side of town. He knew better.

Doug throws a punch right next to Justin's face but hits the door instead of Justin. Doug moves back and starts to pace.

JUSTIN

I'm just trying to help. That's all I ever did.

DOUG

No. All you ever did was bring him down. If you would have stayed away from him, he would be alive right now. YOU should have been the one that's dead!

JUSTIN

I can't bring him back! I wish I could!

DOUG

Well, you can't, can you? Just leave.



Get out of here.

JUSTIN

Can I at least please talk to Mrs.  
Johnson?

DOUG

Maybe you didn't hear me. Well,  
I'm not going to repeat myself.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOUG'S FRONT OF THE HOUSE

Justin opens the front door quickly. He is scared. He starts hurrying down the front steps as Doug peers out of the door yelling.

DOUG

You need to run. RUN!! Run  
as fast as you can because  
jail doesn't scare me at this point.

Justin still upset, starts to run away.

JUSTIN

(shouting to Doug)

I'm sorry!

DOUG

Boy! I don't care! Don't ever come  
around here again! If I see you on  
the street, I'm going to run your ass  
over. This is your one and only chance  
to live. I lost my son, lost my wife,  
your life means nothing to me!

Justin runs away. Doug slams the door. He falls with his back hitting the door and Doug starts to cry. He slowly slides down the door falling into crouching/sitting position. He hangs his head down and cries.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S LIVING ROOM – MID-AFTERNOON

Two weeks have gone by. Doug is sitting in front of the TV just staring. The TV is not on. He's beard has grown in and he looks very tired and ragged. The house is messy. There's a knock on the door. Doug opens the door to find Detective Parks and Detective Peterson.

DET. PARKS

Mr. Johnson? May we come in?

DOUG

Ummm..

Doug looks around the house real quick but really doesn't care.

DOUG (CONT'D)

Sure.

Doug and both detectives go into the living room and sits down. The Detectives had to move things off the couch to be able to sit down.

DET. PARKS

Sir, we just wanted to inform you that we have solved your son's murder.

CLOSE ON: Doug's face surprised and interested. Finally he's showing a hint of caring.

DET. PETERSON

We know it might not bring you comfort at this time, but closure is something that all families should have.

DET. PARKS

There is no easy way to tell you and the information I'm about to tell you will be very upsetting.

Doug is now very interested.

DOUG

I don't care. I just want to know. I need to know everything. Tell me... why?

Detective Parks looks at Detective Peterson and gives him a nod.

DET. PETERSON

Well, from what we have discovered, your

son attended a party with a young lady named Lisa.

FADE TO:

A party scene with Lisa and David walking in. Lisa is hanging all over David. She dances very seductively on him while looking at Calvin – as if to rub it into his face. David is having fun but Calvin is in the back watching getting very angry. Lisa excuses herself to go to the bathroom and Calvin uses this opportunity to take care of David. He approaches David with a gun to David's back. He makes David get in his truck and they drive off with Calvin holding a gun to David's head.

FADE BACK TO:

Detective Peterson looks at Detective Parks. Doug hangs his head down.

DOUG

I get it.

DET. PARKS

We want you to know that he is now in our custody and it's an open and shut case. We were able to match the bullets to the gun, which was registered in his father's name. His fingerprints were all over the gun.

DOUG

(shaking his head)

You know... I work my ass off to get my son away from the dangerous streets and now you're telling me I killed my boy by moving here?

DET. PETERSON

Sir. You can't think like that. We are all numbered and unfortunately, some numbers come up before ours. We just have to make the best of what we have while we have it.

Doug gets up and the Detectives also stand up. Doug extends his hands out to shake theirs.

DOUG

Thank you detectives.

DET. PARKS  
We're sorry again Mr. Johnson

DET. PETERSON  
Very sorry.

Doug walks them towards the front door and lets them out.

Doug walks back to the couch and slumps his body into it. He grabs a photo of David off the side table and stares into it when the phone rings. CLOSE ON: The answering machine right before it picks up to show there are 60 messages. The answering machine picks up and you can hear the message is being said by Doug, Trish, and David. The message ends and it is Pete. He is leaving a message that they have fired him. Doug sits for a few seconds then goes to get up and falls on his knees.

DOUG  
God...I've always talked to you. I've  
always had faith. I might not have  
gone to church too much but I still  
believed in you. I'm a good man.  
Why my son?

Doug starts crying.

DOUG  
You know the only memories I have  
strongly of him is when he was small  
and I would come home from work  
and I'd go to sleep, and no matter where  
I fell asleep, he would come find me  
and curl up next to me.

Doug thinks about it then gets back on the couch.

DOUG  
I guess I was a failure at being a Dad.  
I worked so hard and wanted so much  
that I missed out on seeing my son  
grow into a man. I fooled myself to  
think that I needed to give him things  
that I didn't get when what he really  
needed was me.

Doug looks at David's picture again. Doug thinks for a while then breathes out a deep loud breath.

DOUG

David! If you can hear me... I hope you know I am very proud of you and I'm going to find the strength to honor you. I'll try and make you proud of me.

Doug gets up and walks out.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. JUSTIN'S CLOSET ROOM

Doug walks in Justin's room and Justin freaks out.

JUSTIN

Oh my God! What the ---

Justin throws himself in the corner, quickly looking around for a weapon, and preparing to defend himself. Doug puts his hands out in front of him to show all is ok.

DOUG

Calm down

JUSTIN

How did you find me?

DOUG

I grew up on the streets too kid.

JUSTIN

(still defensive)

What you want?

DOUG

Need to talk to you.

JUSTIN

(trying to speak with an attitude)

OK. So talk . I'm listening.

Doug just stares at him.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE – MID-MORNING.

It's been a month since Justin and Doug spoke. Justin is quickly rushing down the stairs laughing carrying his fishing pole.

JUSTIN

Ha! I won!

Justin heads towards the front door and is startled to find Trish walking into the door. Trish is shocked to see Justin.

TRISH

Justin! What are you doing here?

CUT TO:

Doug is coming down the steps when he sees Trish in the house. He stops. He is shocked and happy but tries to hide it.

CUT BACK TO:

JUSTIN

I live here now. Mr. Johnson took me in. He got me back into school and even got me a job.

Trish looks up and sees Doug at the steps. They stares at each other for a moment then quickly catches themselves and continues on. Doug, trying to play it off, finally speaks .

DOUG

(chuckling)

No. I just gave him one of mine.

Justin realizes something's up so makes a cue to leave.

JUSTIN

Well, I'll be in the car. We're going

fishing. Crazy, huh? Me? Fishing.

Justin gives Trish a quick hug.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Although ... I would pay to see you fishing Mrs. Johnson.

TRISH

(shyly)

Oh. I don't know.

DOUG

(being playful and sweet)

Aw, c'mon. New experiences? Why don't you come along?

Trish thinks about it for a second.

TRISH

Fishing? Oh no. I don't think so.

Justin shrugs his shoulder to say ok. He looks over at Doug and gives him a big smile while his eyes points to Trish.

JUSTIN

Ok then. I'll be outside. Gotta pack the stuff.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOUG'S FRONT OF THE HOUSE

Justin comes out of the house and sees Rick in the car. Rick sees him too and they both give each other a bad stare down.

CUT TO:

INT. DOUG'S HOUSE

Doug is a little disappointed Trish didn't want to come along but tries not to show it to her. He tries to show that it's ok and doesn't bother him. He heads towards the front door.

DOUG

All right then. Well, I haven't moved

any of your stuff so you should find whatever else you need.

TRISH

Wait.

Doug stops and is happy. He thinks she has changed her mind. He turns around, still playing it cool.

DOUG

Ya?

TRISH

Why did you take Justin in? I thought you didn't like him?

DOUG

Well, I knew without anyone to take care of him, he would probably be dead in a year. Plus, it's what David would want.

Trish puts her head down and thinks about what Doug said, then softly nods.

DOUG

I have to go. The boy... I mean Justin, is waiting for me. Lock up when you're done. K?

Before Trish could respond and Doug could open the door, the door opens and it's Rick. He walks into the house. Doug is shocked but again tries to play it cool as if it doesn't bother him.

DOUG

Hey...Rick! How have you been?

RICK

Good. Trish is a great cook.

Doug still being cool, trying to hold back.

DOUG

Yeah... We've been learning how to cook too. I'm actually pretty proud of Justin. He can whip up some good cornbread.



RICK

Good for you. We mostly have dinner  
at 5 star restaurants.

DOUG

Must be nice buddy.

Doug looks over at Trish then turns towards the door.

DOUG (CONT'D)

Well, I need to go. I'll see you guys later.

RICK

(under his breath behind Doug's back)

No we won't.

Doug pauses at the door and looks at Trish. He gives her his cute half smile and a nod to say  
goodbye. He walks out and closes the door.

CLOSE ON: Trish contemplating on everything that has just been said.

RICK

Well, he seems happy. You ask me, I think it's  
disgraceful to move on so quickly.

Trish is still quiet but is now offended by Rick's remark. She is now looking at Rick but with a  
look of disgust.

TRISH

Rick? I'm done.

RICK

What? I thought you had things to get?  
You don't want anything here?

TRISH

No. I mean...I'm done lying to myself.  
I am home. This is where I belong.  
Thank you for everything you have done.

RICK

But this place ... it has lots of things  
that remind you of your dead son.  
Remember?

TRISH

Yes, I know. And it still hurts... a lot,  
but I don't want to forget him either.  
Besides, I just realized ... I need my  
husband. What he just did for Justin  
reminded me of why I fell in love  
with that man in the first place.

She walks over and opens the door to escort Rick out. Rick looks at Trish confused.

TRISH

I'm going to be here when they get home.  
Thanks again so much for all your help.  
I'll call you later to get my things.

Rick stands there for a second then gets a call on his cell phone.

RICK

OK. I'm coming.

Rick looks back at Trish still confused by her decision. Trish closes the door. She turns around and heads up stairs. She stops halfway and looks around the house. She looks a little sad at first because her son is gone but then she starts smiling because she knows she has a new life and must keep going. She continues up the stairs with a small smile on her face.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

EXT. DOUG'S FRONT YARD

Doug and Justin are walking around the house with shovels. Bob jumps over the fence dressed as a street punk.

BOB

What's up my homies.

Bob has his hand up waiting for a hi-five from Doug.

BOB

Oh, leave me hanging. OK. I sees  
how it is. Well, I need to borrow  
your... grass chop chop chopper.

Bob is motioning his fingers to cut like scissors.

DOUG  
Grass chopper? You mean lawn mower?

BOB  
Yo, yo. You're reading me like a book.

Doug and Justin look at each other and chuckle.

DOUG  
Yeah man. It's in the shed. Help yourself.

BOB  
Coolio!

Bob tries to jump over the fence but falls over. He jumps back up and sways his way towards the back. Doug and Justin just shakes their head while chuckling. They walk towards the front and begin to dig out a stump.

CUT TO:

Trish comes out of the front door with lemonade drinks.

TRISH  
Wow. It's really hot. You guys want some lemonade?

JUSTIN  
How about a jack hammer?

DOUG  
Aw...it's not that bad now. Remember, we live here. So we have to represent.

Justin is struggling with the stump.

JUSTIN  
Man...the roots go to China.

Doug and Trish quickly look at each other smiles, then look at Justin.

JUSTIN  
What?

They all burst out laughing.

End shot. Camera pulls away from the family, from the house, from the neighbors, from the neighborhood, tilts up towards the sky into the clouds with a soft and slight image of David smiling in the clouds.

FADE IN:

A family photo of Doug, Trish, and David which transitions into a family photo of Doug, Trish, and Justin with Trish holding a picture of David on her lap.

The End.

Characters:

DOUG JOHNSON  
TRSH JOHNSON  
DAVID JOHNSON  
JUSTIN  
RICK  
AMY  
BOB  
DARLENE  
UNCLE ERIC  
PETE  
LADY  
CRYSTAL  
STACY  
Mr.BRITCHERD  
NIKKIE  
TERESA  
PATTY  
LISA  
CALVIN  
DET. PETERSON  
DET. PARKS