

Heavenly Things

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HEAVENLY THINGS

EXT. OLYMPIC MOUNTAINS -- DAY

Two wolves flee down a small knoll. When they reach the bottom the lead wolf freezes with his ears pointed forward. A GUNSHOT rings out. The two wolves tear down the other side of the knoll as another GUNSHOT echoes through the valley.

EXT. MOUNTAIN ROAD -- DAY

A bright yellow Volkswagan Thing tears around the corner of a switchback in a cloud of flying rocks.

INT. VOLKSWAGAN THING -- DAY

JESSICA GOODE, a fearless female in her mid-twenties pilots the partially open vehicle while in the rider's seat, a terrified GRANT holds on to any fixed interior object that he can find.

Another GUNSHOT rings out.

JESSICA

No!

EXT. MOUNTAIN MEADOW -- DAY

Jessica brings the vehicle to a screeching stop and jumps out. She scrambles down a hillside, her athletic body expertly dodges the rocks and puddles from the recent rains.

She manages to pick up a few rocks and hurls them at a couple of MEN at the bottom of the hill who run towards their SUV. She continues to pellet the SUV with rocks as it takes off.

Grant tries to follow her, but stumbles on the rocks and lands in each puddle along the way. He catches up with her as she kneels next to the carcass of a wolf, gently petting it.

He trips on a rock and lands eye to eye with the dead animal.

JESSICA

Morning Dew. They killed her.

GRANT

Ranchers?

Jessica shakes her head.

JESSICA

Ranchers are too busy to take the time to track wolves this deep into the forest.

She gently lifts the dead wolf and starts up the hill.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

This was done by someone who enjoys killing.

EXT. QUIET SEATTLE SUBURB -- DAY

It is a tranquil classic Seattle neighborhood with just the right amount of fir trees removed to provide the homes with a rustic yet stylish Pacific Northwest appeal. The peaceful day is interrupted by what sounds like three GUNSHOTS.

EXT. FRONT LAWN -- DAY

An old white van is parked in the middle of a well-groomed mature residential lawn. All we can see is the rump of a young man in his late 20's, DANNY SULLIVAN from under the hood while a frustrated, ANNA MORGAN, sits behind the wheel.

Anna turns the key and the tortured van emits three more gunshot-like BACKFIRES accompanied by black smoke.

Danny hits his head on the hood as he jumps back. He slams the hood shut and repetitively kicks the van.

DANNY

Shit, shit, shit. I killed it.

His blackened face matches the grease marks on his t-shirt and tight jeans. He turns around and notices five young CHILDREN on the sidewalk.

They huddle and GIGGLE. Anna jumps out of the van. It is difficult to determine her age. Although her face has the smooth texture of a girl in her 20's or 30's, her hair and dress is that of a matron.

ANNA

Father.

The children freeze like statues and gape at Danny. Anna herds them towards the church next door.

ANNA (CONT'D)

You are all late for bible study.

Danny recovers and reaches down and grabs a towel to wipe his hands.

DANNY
Anna -- wait.

Danny kneels down in front of the children. He lowers his voice.

DANNY (CONT'D)
I guess you all heard what Father
Danny said?

The little ones nod in unison.

ANNA
They should have been in class.
Let's not disturb Father Sullivan
and get...

Danny cuts off her sentence with a wave of his hand. Danny's eyes soften as he turns back to the innocent faces.

DANNY
Sometimes we are tempted to do and
say bad things. Father Danny is no
different than you.

CHILD#1
You were bad, Father?

DANNY
I was bad and I'm sorry.

One of the children reaches out and pats Danny on the shoulder.

CHILD#2
It's okay Father. You'll be good
next time.

Danny reaches out and gives a "group hug" to the children.

DANNY
Next time.

Danny straightens up and taps himself on the shoulder.

DANNY (CONT'D)
I'm it.

He dashes away followed by the SHRIEKING group of children.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

The office contains two desks. The first one is the desk of a busy person with neat stacks of files and papers everywhere.

Every inch not covered in paperwork contains photographs of children and poodles.

It's occupant, BARBARA, is a plump all-knowing church secretary in her sixties who looks out the window at Danny playing tag with the children. She smiles with satisfaction and returns to her typing as Anna enters the office.

ANNA

Finished?

Barbara pulls a page from her typewriter and adds it to a stack of papers on her desk. She deliberately takes care to make sure the edges match before stapling them. Anna impatiently grabs the sheets as soon as the stapler releases.

ANNA (CONT'D)

Why don't you use the computer?

BARBARA

I am using it.

Barbara rearranges an audience of Beanie Babies sitting on top of the computer monitor.

ANNA

Father Sullivan expects his sermon to be accurate and timely.

Anna speed reads the sermon. She crosses over to the other desk in the room which is a disaster area. She removes a stack of books from the chair and drops them loudly to the floor.

She sits down and searches for a pen and shakes her head in disgust. Instead she reaches into her purse for a red pen. She starts furiously marking up the pages with notes and cross-outs.

Danny enters the office and places a finger to his lips when Barbara sees him. He grabs a lion Beanie Baby and tosses it into the middle of his desk to break Anna's concentration.

She SHRIEKS and her look of surprise quickly changes to a look of frustration as Danny grabs the lion and starts marching it across the desk creating a bigger mess.

DANNY

Grr -- grr.

He marches the lion up her arm. Anna pushes the lion away and it falls to the ground.

ANNA

Danny.

She gets up from his desk and smoothes her dress and a stray hair.

ANNA (CONT'D)
I mean Father.

She hands him the sermon.

ANNA (CONT'D)
You better go practice, Father.

DANNY
Only for a few minutes, then I'm off
to steal a van for the youth group
retreat.

Danny tugs her hair playfully and grabs the sermon.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Dinner later, if I'm not in jail?

Anna turns red and nods slightly. She looks up to see Danny hurry out the door.

BARBARA
Are you going to keep calling him
Father after you two are married?

ANNA
He hasn't even asked.

Anna returns to his desk and starts to straighten it up.

ANNA (CONT'D)
Yet.

INT. CHURCH -- DAY

The church is beautiful, the recipient of the graces of a generous Episcopalian congregation. Danny stands at the pulpit speaking to a fictitious audience.

DANNY
And lo, although I walk through the
valley of darkness, I fear no evil.

Danny reaches into his pocket and pulls out the Beanie Baby lion. He marches it across the pulpit.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Because I'm the meanest one in the
valley.

He moves the lion up to the microphone and has it start to attack the mike.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Grr -- grr.

INT. CHURCH FOYER -- DAY

An elderly priest, FATHER MORGAN stands in the shadows to the side shaking his head in disapproval. Anna comes up behind Father Morgan and they both watch Danny practice his sermon.

ANNA

How's he doing Daddy?

FATHER MORGAN

I'm beginning to think maybe we should send him over to the Catholics.

ANNA

Catholic priests can't marry.

FATHER MORGAN

Exactly.

Father Morgan winks at Anna.

ANNA

Give him time.

FATHER MORGAN

He doesn't have what it takes to run this parish.

ANNA

Give me time.

INT. CLALLAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jessica stands at the counter while an older deputy, SAM, is on the other side with his arms crossed.

SAM

No law against killing a wolf unless it's in the park. If it had happened on the other side of that logging road, I'd be chatting with those fellas.

JESSICA

That's all I'm going to do. It's part of my job to educate the public.

SAM

I should have brought you up on assault charges the last time you

(MORE)

SAM (CONT'D)
gave those hunters a lesson on
protecting wolves.

JESSICA
Come on -- just a few keystrokes in
your computer. If I don't let those
guys know how our wolf population is
approaching an endangered level,
they'll just come out next weekend
and shoot more.

Sam shakes his head.

SAM
Privacy laws. Now if you thought
those guys were a threat to our
nation's security, I could let you
know what brand of underwear they
bought last week.

Jessica drops her head.

SAM (CONT'D)
You could ask around the car lots,
but the only BMW dealerships are
over in Seattle.

Jessica smiles and leans across the counter and kisses Sam
on the cheek.

SAM (CONT'D)
Cut that out, you're practically a
married woman.

Jessica GASPS as she turns and runs out of the office.

INT. ANDREW'S OFFICE -- DAY

ANDREW GREY, a polished professional in his early thirties
sits in an office that has all the perks that money can buy;
a leather couch, a hand-carved oak desk, a few animal heads
on the wall and a well-stocked bar.

Jessica rushes into the office.

JESSICA
Sorry. I missed the two o'clock
ferry.

ANDREW
Mother called six times. The
photographer, flowers, and something
about the centerpieces.

Jessica pulls out a piece of paper.

JESSICA

Didn't you say that you went to college with a guy who runs a BMW dealership?

ANDREW

This is fantastic -- you changed your mind about my wedding gift.

Andrew grabs the phone.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I'll call Chuck -- I was getting nauseated thinking about that ugly thing parked in front of our house after we're married. You're going to love the new 325i.

INT. BMW DEALERSHIP CUBICLES -- DAY

The showroom is filled with shiny new BMWs. Surrounding the cars are cubicles where SALESPEOPLE talk on the phone or meet with customers. Father Danny sits in one of them, across from TOM, a middle-aged guy with a sagging body but a cherub's grin.

TOM, an overweight guy in his 40's, sits comfortably back in his chair, taunting Danny by holding a ring of keys out of his reach. Danny lunges for them and misses.

DANNY

Come on, give them to me. I'll have it back in a few days, filled with gas.

TOM

This is your third test drive. When are you going to buy this old clunker?

DANNY

No money in the church budget. The youth group comes after the ladies tea, stained glass windows, and those little cards they hand out at funerals.

Danny picks up a brochure from the rack and studies a specifications chart.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I knew it. The new six series has a GPS navigation option and heated windshield wiper fluid.

TOM
Get a real job and you'd be able to
afford one of these beamers.

Danny looks up at Tom.

DANNY
I have a real job.

TOM
You call that work - two hours once
a week?

TERESA, a seasoned forty-something woman sticks her head in
the cubicle. She is another salesperson, much more
professionally dressed than Tom and obviously frazzled.

TERESA
You need to take that customer over
there.

They all turn and stare at Jessica who looks more out of
place wearing her khaki uniform in a BMW showroom than an
Episcopalian priest.

She walks around a new BMW SUV and then looks underneath.
She then takes a measuring tape out of her purse and measures
the rear hatch.

TOM
What a nut. Probably trying to see
if her dead husband will fit.

TERESA
She's your nut -- I have to leave to
pick up my kids and everyone else is
busy.

TOM
No can do. Got a delivery in a few
minutes.

Tom looks over at Danny who flips to the next page in a
brochure. Tom takes it away.

TOM (CONT'D)
What about you, Mr. Real Job? Want
to take that customer?

DANNY
Me? Sell a car?

TOM

Here's the deal -- you prevent her from walking away until I get free and I sell her a car -- I'll get Chuck to donate that clunker van to your youth group.

Teresa grabs Tom on the arm.

TERESA

I realize that you are totally unencumbered by the thought process, but are you really going to let Father Danny pretend he's a salesman?

TOM

He probably knows more about beamers than half of the sales force. I'm just going to have him keep her busy for a few minutes.

Danny jumps up and grabs the brochure from Tom's hand. Teresa reaches over the divider and gently touches Danny's clergyman's collar.

TERESA

Maybe you should lose the collar Father?

Danny quickly tosses the collar and grabs a sports jacket from the coat tree in the corner before heading across the showroom to greet Jessica.

TOM

I am good. I just turned a priest into a car salesman.

TERESA

You'll go to hell for sure. I can't wait until you tell your sweet wife what her brother did today.

TOM

I'm not worried about Beth, it's Chuck who will fry me if he finds out.

INT. BMW DEALERSHIP SHOWROOM -- DAY

Danny opens the door to the 325i for Jessica.

DANNY

Real leather, the full seat, not just the top and sides.

Danny rubs his hand sensually along the top of the seat.

JESSICA
I don't believe in the destruction
of animals for commercial production.

Danny gives a pat to the seat.

DANNY
What about humans?

JESSICA
As far as I'm concerned, some could
be destroyed if they lack value to
society.

With perfect timing, Tom walks by and gives a "thumbs up" to
Danny.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
Have you ever thought how barbaric
it is to chop off their heads and
stick them on our walls?

DANNY
Who in the world would do that?

Jessica points towards Chuck's office and two deer heads
over the doorway.

JESSICA
Let's say aliens land here and are
studying us.

Danny looks around at Tom and his customers and smiles. Tom
gives Danny another "thumbs up."

JESSICA (CONT'D)
They see that we keep some species
captured and tied up as pets, chop
the heads off of others and stick
them on our walls, and eat most of
rest.

Jessica looks at two salesmen chomping down fastfood breakfast
sandwiches at a corner desk.

DANNY
I've never seen another species have
a pet. It would be kind of cute to
see a dog with a pet duck.

JESSICA
The duck would probably feel
differently.

DANNY
Don't you think pets enjoy the
protection and care we provide them?

JESSICA
That's what slave owners used to
say.

Danny drops his head in shame.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
It's even worse, look at these seats -
what if we visited another planet
and found that human skin was used
for seat covers?

Danny brightens up and moves her towards another car on the
showfloor.

DANNY
Comes in cloth.

Jessica takes the lead and opens the door to the SUV.

JESSICA
Let's see how good you are.

Danny starts to blush slightly. Jessica is pleasantly
surprised.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
At selling me an SUV. Do you sell
many red ones?

Jessica stops at the BMW's lift gate and tries to open it.
She sets her purse down and the tape measure falls out.
Danny picks it up and studies it.

DANNY
Pretty calculating, aren't you?

JESSICA
The measuring tape is to see if that
model has enough ground clearance.

DANNY
What do you like to drive over, small
animals?

Danny hands her the measuring tape and she catches his smile
before starting another sermon.

DANNY (CONT'D)
What do you drive now?

JESSICA
A Volkswagan Thing.

DANNY
One of those Jeep things from the
eighties?

Jessica nods and points to a bright yellow car parked in front. Danny looks around for Tom who is nowhere to be seen.

DANNY (CONT'D)
I guess we better go take a look at
it. Find the trade-in value and
all.

INT. BMW DEALERSHIP OFFICE -- DAY

Tom stands across from the desk of a large burly guy CHUCK, dressed in an expensive suit.

CHUCK
You gave this one away, you idiot.

TOM
It was tough sale, lawyer and all.

CHUCK
Go get another one and maybe I won't
fire you.

Tom gathers his paperwork and heads for the door.

CHUCK (CONT'D)
Keep your eye out for a really classy
looking chick. An old "U" football
buddy of mine is sending his
girlfriend down to look for a new
beamer.

Tom almost immediately breaks out into a panic sweat.

CHUCK (CONT'D)
Don't screw this one up. Put her in
a 318i and he'll pay sticker. Should
be a slam dunk.

INT. BMW DEALERSHIP SHOWROOM -- DAY

Tom frantically looks around the showroom, but Danny and Jessica are gone.

EXT. FRONT OF BMW DEALERSHIP -- DAY

Danny walks around Jessica's bright yellow car.

JESSICA

It's funny looking but great for tight corners. It also has a high clearance for going over stream beds and fallen trees.

Danny opens up the passenger door and a small shovel drops out. He is shocked to see a blood-stained plastic bag.

DANNY

Anybody I know?

JESSICA

Her name was Morning Dew. Shot by a hunter.

DANNY

Your dog?

JESSICA

A wild wolf.

Danny opens the back door and places the shovel on the floor. On the back seat is a wedding dress.

DANNY

A dead animal and a wedding dress. You're an interesting lady.

JESSICA

I'm taking the wolf to the University to get the bullet examined. The dress is a perfect size two.

Danny looks appreciatively at Jessica's body. She is not a tiny person.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Not quite a size two but I refuse to take it back to my future mother-in-law and give her the satisfaction of me saying her dress is too small for me.

Jessica pushes the dress over on the seat and a brochure falls out. Danny retrieves it.

DANNY

Olympic Park Institute. The reason for your animal right's speech.

JESSICA

Did it come out like that?

DANNY
More like a sermon.

She takes the brochure from Danny and opens it. There is a map inside. She lays it on the hood to show him.

JESSICA
My current project is the
reintroduction of the wolf
population...

She indicates an area on the map.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
... here and here.

DANNY
Wolves? Aren't they dangerous?

Jessica glances towards the bag containing the Morning Dew.

JESSICA
There are reports of a rabid wolf
attacking - but that's rare.

DANNY
Define "rare."

JESSICA
There have only been three reports
of attacks and none confirmed.

DANNY
What does it take to confirm? Missing
limbs? I read somewhere that to
scare away bears you should wear
little bells when you hike.

JESSICA
Little bells won't scare away bears.

DANNY
That's probably why I also read that
you can spot bear droppings by the
little bells in them.

JESSICA
Very funny. Most attacks are from
cougars and sometimes it happens so
fast that the victim thinks it was a
wolf.

As if on cue, Tom runs up to the two and greets Jessica. He gives Danny a pat on the back.

TOM

I'll take over from here. I bet you're Andrew's girl.

He offers his hand to Jessica, which she ignores.

JESSICA

Andrew's fiancée and a woman -- not a girl -- in case you couldn't tell. We're doing fine.

TOM

Tom, name is Tom. Danny is my trainee.

He kicks the tires of the Volkswagan Thing.

TOM (CONT'D)

Can see why you're looking for a little luxury, after driving this clunker. What's it going to take to get you into a new beamer today?

JESSICA

It's going to take a test drive and a list of names.

DANNY

Names?

JESSICA

People who bought an SUV during the past year, especially red ones.

TOM

SUV? I thought Andrew was getting you a 318i?

JESSICA

Only if the 318i passes my test drive. If not then I'm looking at the SUV and I'll need that list of names.

Tom brightens up.

TOM

I'll just go get some keys and pull a 318i out front. After your test drive, I'll get those names for you.

JESSICA

I don't want to test drive it here.

INT. BMW DEALERSHIP OFFICE -- DAY

Tom sits crouched behind Tom's desk while Chucks leans over the top.

CHUCK
You told her what?

TOM
She wants to test drive it on mountain roads. I think she wants the SUV and wants to prove to her fiancé that the 318i won't work. You said to take care of her.

CHUCK
I meant to be helpful, not weak.

TOM
Think how much more we'll make when she bumps him up to buying her an SUV. She just wants to drive the 318i for a day - we do that all the time.

CHUCK
Not when we have to put it on a ferry.

Chuck gets up and looks out his window.

CHUCK (CONT'D)
Let me talk to Andrew and see if he's serious about buying this for his girl.

Tom starts to correct him, but figures out this is his chance to escape and turns instead toward the door. He pauses.

TOM
By the way, this girl is horrible with names and keeps calling me Don, Danny, whatever.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

Anna cleans the last remaining items off of Danny's desk. She picks up papers, scans them and then tosses them into the trash.

As she starts dusting the bookshelf behind his desk, she finds a picture of herself and her father buried under a stack of books. She dusts it off and places it prominently on his credenza. Barbara stands in the doorway.

BARBARA
Safe to come back in?

Anna ignores her and continues straightening up the office. Father Morgan comes up behind Barbara and peeks over her shoulder.

FATHER MORGAN
Father Sullivan will certainly appreciate seeing the top of his desk again.

Anna stops her furious cleaning for a moment's reflection.

ANNA
It's amazing that he could find anything.

FATHER MORGAN
Where is Father Sullivan this afternoon?

BARBARA
He's trying to borrow a van from his brother-in-law for the youth group.

ANNA
That heathen? I still can't believe Danny's sister married him.

Father Morgan comes into the office and gives Anna a gentle pat on her arm.

FATHER MORGAN
Sometimes we marry beneath ourselves to serve a higher purpose.

The phone RINGS and Father Morgan ducks out the door.

ANNA
Church office. This is Anna.

Anna pulls out a calendar from her purse. She quickly gets a pencil out of the desk drawer and makes a few notes on the calendar.

ANNA (CONT'D)
Three o'clock, right here on his calendar -- yes, he's expecting you, Mrs. Grey -- oh yes -- thank you.

Father Morgan comes back into the office holding two cups of coffee. He sets one down on the newly cleaned desk which causes Anna to frown for a moment.

She reconsiders and picks up the cup and takes a sip. She decides to rest a moment and sits in Danny's chair.

ANNA (CONT'D)

Mrs. Grey called to confirm her appointment with you tomorrow. I think she's having the wedding here.

FATHER MORGAN

Saint Stephens must be booked.

ANNA

This is wonderful news. The Grey wedding. Maybe they'll come back to the parish.

FATHER MORGAN

I wouldn't count on that. Mrs. Grey switched to Saint Stephens for a good reason.

Anna puts her hands on her hips and takes a defiant stance.

ANNA

Danny had no idea how the Grey's got their money when he gave that sermon.

FATHER MORGAN

Before Danny takes over as pastor, he's got to learn the politics.

EXT. FERRY TERMINAL LOADING AREA -- DAY

There are eight lines of vehicles waiting to load onto the ferry. Danny and Tom stand next to a new BMW as the incoming ferry starts to dock. Danny is searching the deck.

TOM

See her?

DANNY

Not yet. Chuck thinks you're the one taking the car to her?

Tom nods.

TOM

It's a good thing Chuck knows her fiancé or you'd never get away with this.

DANNY

What did you tell Chuck about her calling you Danny?

TOM

The usual dumb blonde thing.

DANNY

She's no dumb blonde.

TOM

Got a great joke. This blonde takes her car into the service department and says the blinker doesn't work. The service guy looks at it and can't find anything wrong. The blonde turns on the blinker and says, "it's working... now it's not... it's working... now it's not."

Danny laughs politely.

TOM (CONT'D)

I've got another one - how do you keep a blonde home after you marry her?

DANNY

Build a circular driveway. You told us that one last week. Beth is still fuming.

Danny scans the deck again and sees Jessica waving.

DANNY (CONT'D)

There she is. I forgot how beautiful she is.

TOM

I thought that collar signified a little restraint when it comes to women.

Danny pulls off at the clergyman's collar and gives it to Tom.

DANNY

You have no idea how much of a turnoff it is to be called "Father." I like being treated like a human being and not someone's confessor.

TOM

I'd love that confessor part of your job, the dark confessional, slowly opening the screen to hear passionate sins...

DANNY
That's the Catholics you idiot.

The ferry has docked. Cars are driving off the ferry.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Jessica says that with my talent I could get into something else a little more respectable.

TOM
Exactly what talent is she talking about?

DANNY
Talking to people and honesty.

TOM
What the hell? I talk to people. I can be honest.

The other drivers are getting in their cars. Danny opens the car door.

DANNY
Gotta go.

EXT. FERRY PASSENGER DECK -- DAY

Danny tosses Jessica a set of keys.

DANNY
... second row on the B deck, right side and when you start the car, let it idle without pressing the gas for a full minute.

JESSICA
You make it sound like I've never started a car before.

DANNY
It's just that this is a precision driving machine compared to what you're used to driving.

JESSICA
You're not insulting my car are you?

DANNY
I think the Thing is an excellent idea - a disposable car - use for a few years and toss away.

Jessica playfully grabs Danny's neck.

JESSICA

Now I know you're insulting me, so take a deep breath the next time you insult me because it will be your last.

Danny carefully removes her hands and holds them in his.

DANNY

I'll try to control my fear.

JESSICA

Remember that I handle wild animals all day.

DANNY

Wild animal? I like that description. Grrr...

JESSICA

You're more like a little puppy.

Danny makes a sad puppy face.

DANNY

Now that I've been totally taken down, I guess this would be a good time for me to go.

The ferry blasts a HORN. A few passengers start walking up the ferry terminal loading bridge.

JESSICA

I'll have it back on the same ferry tomorrow.

DANNY

Like me to call you later?

Jessica shakes her head. Another ferry HORN blast.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Gotta go.

Danny runs down to the passenger loading doors and they are closed. He looks through the window and sees that the bridge has been retracted. The ferry pulls slowly away from the dock.

Danny moves into the sunroom and waves goodbye to Tom. Tom leans against his car in the parking lot and just shakes his head.

EXT. FERRY TERMINAL UNLOADING AREA -- DAY

Jessica and Danny drive the new BMW 318i off the ferry at it's destination and slowly pull over as the other drivers hurry past them.

Danny gets out of the car and comes around to the driver's side and squats down to talk to Jessica who is behind the wheel.

DANNY
I'll pick it up the same time
tomorrow.

Jessica looks at her watch.

JESSICA
There are still two more ferries
tonight.

DANNY
I probably should get back, lots of
work to do.

JESSICA
Aren't you working now?

DANNY
I guess I could show you a few more
features.

He runs around and opens the rider's side. She looks up at him.

JESSICA
Of the car?

INT. BMW TRAVELING ON A MOUNTAIN ROAD -- DAY

Danny and Jessica are enjoying the test drive as a CD PLAYS in the background.

DANNY
Listen to that sound - doesn't it
sound like twelve angels playing
wooden flutes in unison?

Danny reaches up and opens the sun roof.

DANNY (CONT'D)
I'm actually glad that I messed up
getting off the ferry. I can almost
see the angels in those puffy clouds
up there.

JESSICA

You should have been a poet.

DANNY

Poets don't make a lot of money, not even the good ones.

JESSICA

Money is that important?

DANNY

That coming from someone with a rich fiancé who is buying a her a new BMW? Would you love him if he lost it all?

JESSICA

Andrew poor? He was born into money and with his architectural talents - he'll always have money.

DANNY

Could he make a choice - between the good of mankind and money?

JESSICA

He did the tram study for the park for almost free.

DANNY

Tram study?

JESSICA

Part of our funding for this project will come from a consortium that is putting a tram up the side of that mountain to a viewing tower.

DANNY

Doesn't sound very environmental.

JESSICA

It protects the future of wolves by enabling man to interact with the species.

Danny winks at Jessica.

DANNY

Count me in for a little of that interaction.

JESSICA

There's the car salesman coming out again.

Jessica makes a couple of tight turns as the road becomes narrow. Danny grabs the passenger handle in desperation to hang on.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

What about you? You sell cars for the money.

DANNY

I can honestly tell you that the money I make selling cars isn't significant.

JESSICA

What a line.

Jessica takes another tight turn too fast and overcorrects as Danny places both hands on the dash.

DANNY

I'm not a "line" kind of guy. Where did you learn to drive?

JESSICA

Hang on lightweight, we're almost there.

DANNY

Where is "there?" I think you've managed to find the end of the earth.

Danny looks out the window at a steep drop out his side of the car.

DANNY (CONT'D)

This looks like the end of the earth. Maybe our forefathers were right about the world being flat.

Jessica makes a sharp right turn onto a logging road. The BMW 381i handles the turn, but bottoms out with a SCRAPPING sound in a pothole. Danny GROANS.

JESSICA

Not much clearance in this thing.

Danny turns around to look at the hole they hit.

DANNY

It does now. We left a few spare parts in that hole back there.

Jessica smiles and slams on the brakes.

JESSICA
We're here. The wolf's den.

INT. ANDREW'S OFFICE -- DAY

Andrew is deep in concentration at a drafting table positioned next to a window overlooking a lake. The door opens and an older man, GEORGE JENKINS, enters. Andrew continues to study the drawings.

ANDREW
Ever think about knocking?

George ignores him and sits in Andrew's desk.

GEORGE
Find it yet?

Andrew taps the drafting table.

ANDREW
It's here somewhere. Unspoiled
wilderness as far as you can see.
Somebody will pay for that.

George reaches into Andrew's desk drawer and removes a cigar.

GEORGE
If anyone can find an angle to make
a profit off of protecting the
environment, you can.

Andrew gets up and takes the cigar out of George's hand and drops it on the desk.

ANDREW
If I'm going find it, I'll find it
alone.

George shakes his head as he head for the door.

GEORGE
Can't believe the loner is getting
married.

INT. BMW PARKED ON A MOUNTAIN ROAD -- DAY

Jessica maneuvers the BMW into a clearing shielded from the rock face with some low brush.

DANNY
A wolf den?

JESSICA

We haven't seen the cubs yet, they were only born two weeks ago.

DANNY

How do you know they're in there?

JESSICA

The adult wolves of the pack squeak when they bring food into the den.

DANNY

You mean the whole pack feeds the pups - not just the mother?

JESSICA

Wolves are very communal. I think of them much like the Native Americans that lived here at one time. They took care of their own and respected the land. Then ranchers forced them out, almost into extinction

DANNY

I've read that there were hundreds of thousands of Native Americans, and now the amount of pure Native Americans is tiny.

JESSICA

And wolves were extinct here until we reintroduced them to the park.

DANNY

Are the ranchers upset now with the wolves?

JESSICA

They fought us pretty hard during the study, and they have almost succeeded in getting them out of Yellowstone, but the wolves in National Parks don't feed on livestock.

DANNY

What do they eat?

Jessica gives Danny a playful poke in the tummy.

JESSICA

Stick around and we might see.

Jessica grabs her binoculars from her bag and scans the horizon.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Look, there's some wolves over on the ridge.

Jessica hands the binoculars to Danny.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Right up there next to that rock, four or five of them -- see them?

Jessica grabs Danny's chin and points him in the right direction.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

This way.

DANNY

There they are.

JESSICA

The lead wolf is the alpha, you can tell by how high his tail is up when he turns to the others. I call him Golden Eye.

DANNY

Golden Eye?

JESSICA

All wolves have yellow eyes but Golden Eye seems to have eyes like the sun, brighter than the rest. A local Indian legend tells of two young lovers that were forbidden to marry by the chief.

Jessica looks down at her engagement ring and gives it a slight twist.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

His young daughter was promised to a great warrior as a reward for his bravery. The young man was the son of the medicine man and wanted to cure the sick instead of fighting great battles. The two lovers ran away during the night, but by early morning the warriors had hunted them down at the edge of a cliff.

Jessica pauses and looks up at the wolves.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

They tried to take the young girl back to the tribe but she escaped and ran back to her lover. The two held hands and jumped off the cliff just as the sun was rising. Blinded by the sunlight, the warriors had to turn their eyes away. When they looked for the bodies at the bottom of the cliff, all they saw were two wolves - looking up at them with golden eyes.

Jessica looks back at Danny and deep into his eyes.

DANNY

It's like the parable of...

Danny stops-mid sentence. He starts to turn red from embarrassment.

JESSICA

Para what?

Danny jumps out of the car to distract Jessica.

DANNY

I think I see an eagle.

INT. CHURCH -- DAY

Anna dusts the pulpit and finds a stack of papers on the shelf under the top. She picks them and reads from the pages.

ANNA

God has a plan for all of us. Let's look back at the parable of...

Anna pauses, frowns and finds a pen on the shelf. She makes a few changes. Father Morgan enters from one of the side door.

FATHER MORGAN

I'm glad I found you.

Anna quickly replaces the pages in the pulpit. Father Morgan comes up beside her.

FATHER MORGAN (CONT'D)

I've got a few errands to run, then two patients to visit at the hospital.

ANNA

But Mrs. Grey is coming by in a few hours.

FATHER MORGAN

I'd like you to get her started with all those boring details.

Anna starts to brush off her dress.

ANNA

I better go change and then review her file. I'll make you proud.

He pats her on the shoulder.

FATHER MORGAN

It's just a wedding plan, relax.

Anna watches him leave the office.

ANNA

Weddings should be perfect.

INT. CHURCH ATTIC -- DAY

Anna gets a box down from a shelf labeled "photos" when another box next to it falls. Out of the box drops an old wedding dress. Anna holds it up in delight. It is covered in dust.

ANNA

(to herself)

It's perfect.

She COUGHS a few times and starts to furiously rid the dress of years of dust.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

Barbara hangs up the phone as Anna comes into the office carrying the discolored wedding dress and a box. She is covered in dust.

ANNA

Look what I found.

BARBARA

Looks like a dirty rag.

ANNA

I was getting down some photographs of previous weddings to show Mrs. Grey and this was in a box. It must have belonged to my mother.

Anna continues cleaning the years of dust from the dress. Clouds of dust appear with each stroke of her hand. Barbara sweeps the air with her hands, COUGHING.

BARBARA
 Couldn't you do that outside?

ANNA
 I can't take a chance of getting it
 dirty.

Barbara just shakes her head, gathers up her purse and keys and heads for the door. She is almost out when she stops and turns.

BARBARA
 I almost forgot. Danny called.

Anna pauses and takes a look at her watch.

ANNA
 He must be on his way home from Mt.
 Vernon by now.

BARBARA
 Actually, the old man must have taken
 a turn for the worse and Danny wants
 to spend the rest of the day with
 him.

ANNA
 Perfect. That gives me time to get
 this ready to show Danny. He'll
 love it.

EXT. BMW PARKED ON A MOUNTAIN ROAD -- DAY

Danny still searches the sky for the phantom eagle. Jessica stands next to driver's side with the door open to the BMW. She grabs her binoculars the seat and scans the horizon.

JESSICA
 Find that eagle? Or is this just
 another ploy to change the subject?
 I've never known anyone...

DANNY
 Wait, it looks like there is another
 type of animal with the wolves laying
 down.

Danny steps up on the seat so he can see better.

DANNY (CONT'D)
 Oh my God. It's a deer - a baby
 deer.

He drops the binoculars on the seat.

DANNY (CONT'D)

We've got to run up there and help it. They're killing it.

JESSICA

Relax, old yeller. It's nature's way.

DANNY

Nature's way?

JESSICA

The wolves have to eat. Just like you eat chickens, beef, or pork.

Danny picks up the binoculars and looks back at the wolves.

DANNY

How many wolves are in the pack?

JESSICA

We brought in nineteen, but we've already lost one.

As if on cue, Golden Eyes HOWLS.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Howling can mean so many things to wolves, sometimes just to say "Hi" to each other, sometimes a mating call, sometimes they howl when they are hurt or hungry.

DANNY

Speaking of hungry, even though you're not going to buy my car, could I buy you lunch?

JESSICA

Don't be too sure about the car. I guess Andrew is right, I need to tame my wild streak and why not start with my choice in cars?

Danny gives the BMW an appreciative stroke.

DANNY

It is a nice car.

JESSICA

This car says "I'm a sophisticated adult and not a wild woman running with the wolves at night."

DANNY

Aren't you going against your own nature's way?

JESSICA

There are other ways to run wild.

Jessica playfully squeezes Danny's arm.

DANNY

Maybe you could expand on that thought...

JESSICA

Next time.

Jessica pulls back her hand and brushes back a stray hair strand.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

This car will be perfect for my new life.

INT. BMW PARKED ON A MOUNTAIN ROAD -- DAY

Jessica starts the car and backs out. There is another SCRAPING noise, this time much worse. Danny cringes but Jessica continues backing out.

DANNY

Are you sure this is what you want?

JESSICA

The BMW is a practical decision.

DANNY

I meant your new life.

JESSICA

Like I said, it's a practical decision. About that lunch, do you like berries?

EXT. MOUNTAIN MEADOW -- DAY

Danny spreads out an old blanket. Jessica has a paper bag and the binoculars. They both smooth out the blanket and sit down.

JESSICA

I hope you don't mind sharing my lunch? I make a big one since I often do a few miles of hiking before lunch.

DANNY
I don't mind and I certainly don't
mind the ambiance.

Danny picks up the binoculars and scans the horizon.

DANNY (CONT'D)
We seem to be the only two people on
earth.

Danny places the binoculars down next to Jessica and notices
her cell phone. He seems distracted.

DANNY (CONT'D)
(pointing to the cell
phone)
Does that thing work up here?

Jessica picks it up and looks at the display.

JESSICA
If you climb to the top of that knoll
over there - it should get a signal.

DANNY
I should check in with the office.

Jessica tosses the phone to him.

JESSICA
So much for being the only two on
earth.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

Anna has finally gotten most of the dust and dirt shaken
from the dress, but it's still a disaster. She holds it up
in front of her and marches over to a cabinet, HUMMING.

She opens it up to reveal a long mirror. She turns side to
side, admiring the dress.

ANNA
Almost like new.

Her mock wedding rehearsal is interrupted by the imposing
figure of MRS. AMANDA GREY, a distinguished woman in her
70's. With her designer hat and matching shoes and purse,
she fills the doorway with style and grace. Anna drops the
dress and turns ten shades of red.

ANNA (CONT'D)
Mrs. Grey.

Anna wipes her hands hastily on her dress and offers a hand to Mrs. Grey who ignores it.

MRS. GREY
Is he here?

Mrs. Grey carefully takes one step into the office and looks around.

ANNA
Father Morgan?

MRS. GREY
We have a six o'clock appointment to discuss the details of Andrew's wedding.

ANNA
Father Morgan asked me to go over some of the details while he's finishing up some hospital visits.

Anna reaches into a file cabinet and removes a file.

MRS. GREY
I'm not accustomed to being handled by clerical staff.

ANNA
I'm Anna Morgan, Father Morgan's daughter.

Mrs. Grey sizes her up.

MRS. GREY
I guess you'll do until Father Morgan returns. Next time, I expect to meet with Father Morgan.

EXT. MOUNTAIN MEADOW -- DAY

Jessica lays back on the blanket with her eyes closed in bliss as Danny approaches. He tosses the cell phone down and she sits upright. He joins her on the blanket.

JESSICA
This meadow is one of my favorite places of solitude.

DANNY
Do you usually come here alone?

JESSICA
Long ago I would come here with my father.

DANNY

Why don't you two come here anymore?
Not eaten by a bear, I hope.

JESSICA

Dad could take care of himself. He
used to be a logger.

Danny starts to pick up small pebbles and toss them. None
of them seem to get very far.

DANNY

Tough job.

JESSICA

Especially after the Sierra Club
fought to stop logging in our area
to save the spotted owl.

DANNY

I remember all the spotted owl jokes -
what does eagle taste like? A lot
like a spotted owl.

JESSICA

It was no joke to the logging industry
here. Thousands lost their jobs.

DANNY

What happened to your father?

JESSICA

Mostly drinking happened to Dad.

Jessica looks down at the blanket and starts pulling on a
loose thread. Danny takes her hand in his.

DANNY

Some people have a different journey
given to them by God and your dad
either chose the wrong road or maybe
he's a troubled soul.

Jessica pulls her hand back.

JESSICA

Maybe he's just a drunk.

DANNY

Calling your father a drunk is pretty
harsh.

JESSICA

Let's see -- he can polish off a six-pack by noon. Wouldn't that define a "drunk"?

DANNY

To have such marvelous daughter, there must be some good qualities.

Jessica brightens up for a moment and offers a slight smile.

JESSICA

He's a practical joker. He loves to play tricks on people.

DANNY

What kind of tricks?

JESSICA

When we would go to the state fair -- Dad loves the fair -- he would go to all those booths filled with Encyclopedia salesman, Bible thumpers and cable companies and fill in those contest forms. He'd always mark the box that said "have someone contact me".

DANNY

He wanted all those annoying phone calls later?

JESSICA

He'd fill in the names of his buddies and they'd get pestered for months with those calls.

DANNY

Don't his buddies get mad at him?

JESSICA

That was the golden part of Dad, he'd never let them know. That is Dad's way -- secret little jokes.

Jessica laughs and starts picking up the remnants of the sack lunch.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

In fact Dad taught me the best revenge.

DANNY

Revenge?

JESSICA

Whenever someone makes me mad, I always tell them that I'll get back at them.

DANNY

Get even right?

JESSICA

I always say -- I'll get ahead. And you'll never know when.

She leans down close to Danny's face and looks him squarely in the eyes.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

It may not be tomorrow. It may not be next year. But the next time you have a flat tire or get audited by the IRS, you'll wonder -- did Jessica do that?

She offers a hand to help him up. He seizes the opportunity.

DANNY

We'll just have to make sure we never make Jessica mad - won't we?

They pick up the blanket and Jessica starts shaking out the pine needles. They both grab an end of the blanket and start to fold it together. They come together in the last fold, pause and look deeply into each other eyes.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

Anna is sitting at Danny's desk going over a file with Mrs. Grey. Anna seems back in command of the situation.

ANNA

Gretta Goode will provide the accompaniment.

MRS. GREY

She's as fat as a pig. Get someone else.

Anna starts to scratch out Gretta's name and pauses.

ANNA

She's the best organist we have in the congregation, but I could get Susan Meyers from St. Stephens...

MRS. GREY

Absolutely not. I want no part of St. Stephens. How dare they use the date I wanted for confirmations, especially after all the money I give them.

ANNA

We could move the organ...

Anna turns and points to a photograph on the wall of the church.

ANNA (CONT'D)

... over here. That would shield Gretta from most of the guests.

MRS. GREY

Just so she's out of sight of our side of the family.

Anna smiles smugly and continues down the checklist.

INT. ANDREW'S BUSINESS OFFICE -- DAY

Andrew signs some papers as CARRIE, an attractive assistant in her 20s, stands to the side. Andrew tosses a few pages back to her.

ANDREW

Missing releases.

CARRIE

Jamison said he'd mail them tomorrow.

ANDREW

Tell Jamison - I don't get my money without those releases.

Andrew picks up a check attached to the pile and tears it in half.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

So Jamison doesn't get his money either.

CARRIE

You know, I could just hold onto those checks so I wouldn't have to retype them when he brings in the releases.

Andrew smiles and takes the two halves and makes two more tears. He drops the pieces onto the deep carpeting. They scatter as Carrie bends down to pick up the tiny pieces.

Andrew leans his head over the side of the desk to peak at her behind. Carrie looks around in time to catch Andrew admiring her.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

Have you and Jessica have set a date?

ANDREW

One month from now, I'll be forbidden fruit, sweetheart. Care for a fresh juicy bite?

CARRIE

Ever heard of a new thing called sexual harassment?

Andrew picks up another check. Andrew signs the check with a flourish.

ANDREW

Exactly what is the going rate for secretaries today?

He stares at the check for a few seconds before handing it to Carrie.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

This is my protection against sexual harassment.

Carrie tosses some messages on his desk.

CARRIE

Speaking of harassment, Jessica called a hours ago along with these other messages.

ANDREW

Why didn't you tell me?

CARRIE

You said to hold all messages.

Andrew is quickly tossing the messages aside after a quick glance.

ANDREW

Hell, you know I wanted to talk to Jessica. What did she say?

CARRIE

It's all right there in the message.

With one swift move she finds Jessica's message and places it on the top of the heap.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

She won't be on the ferry tonight.

INT. PARK HEADQUARTERS -- DAY

Jessica walks around the exhibit area of the park headquarters with an interested Danny following close by. He stops at each exhibit and reads the information cards. Jessica stops at a stuffed cougar.

JESSICA

... this is the cougar. If you want to talk about bites, this guy will take a hunk out of you.

DANNY

If I ever ran into one of these, I'd run like hell... excuse me... run like the dickens.

JESSICA

Can't outrun a cougar. Your best option is to make yourself appear as large as possible and stand and fight.

DANNY

Fight? Look at those teeth?

Danny reaches up and touches one of the front fangs. Jessica grabs a walking stick leaning against the wall.

JESSICA

Look at him. There are lots of tender places.

Jessica moves the stick around.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Poke him in the eyes, here at the throat and back here...

Jessica realizes that she is indicating delicate territory for a male. Danny reaches out and takes hold of the walking stick.

DANNY

Another reason why we don't want to make Jessica mad.

INT. JESSICA'S OFFICE -- DAY

Danny follows Jessica into her office. It is still cluttered with papers, books, and fragments of the outdoors.

DANNY
Looks productive in here. A lot
like my desk.

Jessica makes a futile attempt to straighten up. She manages to clear a chair for Danny.

JESSICA
You should see Andrew groan when he
sees this. He can't understand how
I can find anything, but I know
exactly where everything is.

Danny takes a seat while Jessica searches through an overburdened bookcase for something.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
Here it is.

Jessica finds the book she was looking for it and flips through the pages. She hands it to Danny.

DANNY
Birds?

JESSICA
I thought it would help you identify
an eagle the next time you thought
you saw one.

Jessica smiles a devilish grin.

DANNY
I couldn't keep this. This is a
nice book.

JESSICA
It's a loan. You can bring it back
next time you're here.

DANNY
Will I be coming out here often?

JESSICA
Every time I need a new BMW. I hope
you'll be my salesman.

Danny looks down at the book and frowns.

DANNY
Your salesman.

JESSICA
You were hoping for more?

DANNY
I don't have many friends...

JESSICA
Friends then.

She takes his hand and shakes it.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
Now why don't you let your new friend
buy you dinner. That wasn't much of
a lunch. Do you like seafood?

INT. DOCKSIDE RESTAURANT -- NIGHT

Jessica and Danny are in a restaurant. Jessica carefully
cuts and mixes her food together.

DANNY
Making sure it's really dead?

Jessica stops her food mixing operation and stares at the
result.

JESSICA
I don't like these peas, so if I mix
them with the salad and grilled
salmon, then I don't taste them.

DANNY
Why don't you just not eat the peas?

JESSICA
Peas are good for you. Usually,
there's something in every meal that
I don't like, but it's good for you.

DANNY
Nature's way? You could order carrots
instead.

JESSICA
But I'd have to ask the waitress
first what type of vegetable comes
with meal. I hate to seem picky.

DANNY
You'd settle for less just so you're
not a bother? It's weird - you seem
so firm in your other convictions.

Just then a BALL lands on the table spilling water and sending
utensils flying. Danny picks up the ball and looks around.
MATT, a little boy about four years old, comes meekly up to
the table.

DANNY (CONT'D)
So how far can throw?

MATT
I can throw real far.

DANNY
Show me.

Matt stands back from the table and Danny tosses the ball to him. Matt tosses it back. Danny and Matt continue to toss the ball back and forth until a WAITRESS comes up.

WAITRESS
Matt. You're not supposed to be out here.

The waitress turns to Jessica.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)
Rotten day, my car broke down and the sitter called in sick. I told Matt to stay in the back with the cook.

Danny looks up at the waitress.

DANNY
Let me give you a number.

Jessica reaches over and places a hand on his arm.

JESSICA
(whispering)
I don't think she can afford a new car right now.

Danny takes out a pen, and writes a number on a napkin.

DANNY
The League of Churches have an emergency drop-in service that they provide in cooperation with the state's First Steps program.

JESSICA
League of Churches? First Steps?

Danny ignores her and hands the napkin to the waitress.

DANNY
If you call this eight hundred number, they can tell you if they have the same services over here that we have in the Seattle area.

The waitress takes the napkin and looks at the number.

WAITRESS

You must know someone with lots of kids.

DANNY

Someone with the most.

Danny turns back to Jessica as the waitress leaves.

JESSICA

Married with lot's of kids, a religious freak, or gay. I can't figure you out. Why isn't a good-looking guy like you married or engaged?

DANNY

I don't meet a lot of women in my line of work.

JESSICA

I know lots of women that buy cars alone. You know we all don't need a man with us to buy a car.

DANNY

I didn't mean that. I meant it's just hard to talk to women outside of work.

Jessica pats his hand.

JESSICA

No need to explain. It must be hard not to be perceived as a slick fast-talking salesperson.

She starts stroking his hand, then up his arm.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

I must admit the way you talk passionately about how a car handles and the feel of real leather against my skin makes me wonder about...

Jessica stops and turns a little red.

DANNY

About?

JESSICA

Nothing.

Danny leans forward and whispers.

DANNY

You were thinking about those narrow mountain roads, taking them a little too fast, pushing every bit of that additional forty pounds per foot of torque to maximum performance..

Jessica laughs and playfully slaps his hand. She leans forward also and is now a few inches from Danny.

JESSICA

(as she whispers into his ear)

You were thinking of those wild wolves howling at night, searching for their mate, stalking the night, searching, hunting, with the light of the moon reflecting in their eyes, the hunger, the passion, the desire building up with a force...

Danny frantically looks around for the waitress, spots her, then gestures to their table.

DANNY

Check please.

EXT. FERRY TERMINAL LOADING AREA -- NIGHT

Danny and Jessica pull up to the ferry dock as the ferry pulls away.

DANNY

Let me guess, that was the last ferry tonight?

Jessica holds her finger to his mouth.

JESSICA

Shh --- let me make a call.

Jessica takes a cell phone from her bag and dials a number.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

(into the cell phone)

Do you have a room for tonight?

Jessica puts the phone away and smiles at Danny. Danny starts tugging at the threading on the steering wheel.

DANNY

We need to talk...

Jessica gives him a playful shove.

DANNY (CONT'D)
... it's about my work.

JESSICA
I know the perfect place.

EXT. PORCH OF BED AND BREAKFAST HOTEL -- NIGHT

Jessica and Danny stand on the porch and Jessica RINGS the doorbell over and over. She's obviously impatient.

DANNY
Maybe you should have selected a
the Holiday Inn or DoubleTree in
town?

The door opens and a middle-aged women, MABEL is drying her hands on an apron that says "Kiss me Stupid". She hugs Jessica and reaches for Danny's hand.

MABEL
What wounded animal have you found
tonight Jessie?

JESSICA
He missed the last ferry.

MABEL
You must be Danny. This is turning
into a pretty long test drive.

Mabel gives them both a wink, then ushers Danny inside. Jessica steps back.

MABEL (CONT'D)
You get inside too, Jessie. I've
got a big fire going and a pot of
tea heating.

JESSICA
I've got an early morning conference
call with the consortium, Mom.

She tosses the keys to Danny.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
I'm just going to walk home and get
some fresh air.

Danny playfully tosses the keys back.

MABEL

There's no arguing with that. That's my girl, all business and no pleasure.

Mabel turns and heads towards the kitchen.

MABEL (CONT'D)

I hear my tea boiling. Danny, you just come in and make yourself comfortable.

Jessica grabs Danny's hand and firmly presses the keys into his palm then closes his fingers around the keys.

JESSICA

Thanks for the test drive today.

DANNY

I thought today might end differently.

JESSICA

It's going to end the same as you thought. You're just not going to be there.

DANNY

Excuse me?

JESSICA

You and I are going to have a steamy passionate time tonight. It's just that you're not going to be there. You'll be in my head instead.

Jessica gives him a light kiss. Danny returns a much firmer kiss.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Safer and more comfortable for both of us.

DANNY

I make you uncomfortable?

JESSICA

You make me way too comfortable.

She leaves a confused Danny who watches her walk away.

INT. ANDREW'S OFFICE -- NIGHT

Andrew helps Carrie put her jacket on. Carrie picks up her purse.

CARRIE

It's only because I'm hungry.

Andrew grabs his briefcase and they start to walk out together.

ANDREW

Hungry for what?

CARRIE

Steak. Just steak.

ANDREW

What a shame. Time's running out for you enjoy my last single days.

CARRIE

Do you really think marriage is going to interfere with your dating?

INT. BED AND BREAKFAST -- NIGHT

Mabel walks into the living room where Danny looks at framed photographs on the fireplace mantel. He picks up one to take a closer look. It is a picture of Jessica and Andrew. Mabel sets down a tray of cookies and tea.

MABEL

Yup, that's Andrew Grey. Big fancy wedding next month at St. Michaels in Seattle.

Danny drops the photo. It breaks.

DANNY

I'm sorry.

Mabel picks up the broken frame.

MABEL

Any hidden motive there?

DANNY

I'll replace the glass tomorrow.

Mabel dumps the frame and photo into the trash.

MABEL

Problem solved.

DANNY

You said, St. Michaels?

MABEL

If it were up to Jessica, it would be in a meadow, but Andrew Grey has to have the best of everything including my Jessica.

She pulls out a small photo album from a bookcase.

MABEL (CONT'D)

Speaking of the best, I've got much better pictures of my greatest accomplishment.

DANNY

Would you also have a phone? I just remembered a dinner date that I missed.

MABEL

It's in the hallway. Help yourself to my photos, phone, and this snack. I'll be in the kitchen getting it cleaned up for breakfast.

Mabel heads out of the room, but pauses at the doorway. Danny already has the photo album open and is engrossed with the photographs of Jessica. She looks over at the phone and smiles.

EXT. CHURCH -- NIGHT

Anna locks the church doors, then pulls on them to make sure they are locked tight. She looks at her watch and taps on the dial. She holds it up to her ear.

Anna pulls a cell phone out of her purse and stares for a moment at the display. She tosses it back in her purse, then walks next door to the pastor's house and unlocks the front door. She disappears into the plain house.

INT. JESSICA'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jessica talks on the phone. She turns around every few seconds and pulls out another book or map. Her desk is slowly getting piled high.

JESSICA

(into the phone)

There's three hundred feet of clearance between the pumping stations and the east access road... Let me check.

She turns and gets one more map from the shelf.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
 That would cross migration trails...
 That can't be moved -- just a second
 and I'll check.

Jessica gets another map down from the top shelf. Other maps behind it come CRASHING down.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
 I'll call you back.

Grant comes into the office. Jessica has her head down on her desk.

GRANT
 Nap time?

JESSICA
 (not lifting her head,
 muttering)
 This consortium is driving me crazy.

GRANT
 Sure the tram is worth it?

Jessica looks up.

JESSICA
 It wouldn't be so bad if they didn't
 keep changing the plans. First they
 want to move the pumping station,
 then they want to realign the access
 road, now they want to alter a
 migration trail.

GRANT
 You trust these guys, Jess?

JESSICA
 Don't even know them. They're
 Andrew's guys.

GRANT
 I don't know if it's worth all this.

JESSICA
 For five years we've been operating
 at a deficit. Not many choices left.

Grant picks up the picture frame of Jessica and Andrew.

GRANT
 I hope that's not the reason why
 you're marrying Andrew -- trying to
 save this park.

Jessica takes the frame back away from him and carefully places it on the bookshelf behind her.

GRANT (CONT'D)

I doubt if any congressman is stupid enough to try to close one of the oldest parks. They'd probably just privatize it.

JESSICA

That would be the end of my wolf project.

GRANT

How's that?

JESSICA

A private company would want to add lodges, restaurants, shops - all the things tourist are looking for.

Jessica begins to straighten up her desk by replacing the maps on the shelf.

GRANT

The tram's not too bad compared to all that garbage going in up here.

JESSICA

That's why I'm supporting it. People will understand wolves if they could see them from the tram in their natural habitat; playing, howling, and squeaking.

Grant starts to put some of the maps up on the shelf.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

What I really need is the aerial shots we had the Army Corp of Engineers take last month and the latest consortium project maps.

GRANT

They're in the lab, I'll go get them.

JESSICA

Then maybe I can find a way to divert this trail.

Grant leaves the room and Jessica puts her head back down on the desk. One more map comes down and crashes on her head.

INT. BMW DEALERSHIP SHOWROOM -- DAY

Tom and Danny sit in Tom's cubicle.

TOM

You two ended up in a hotel?

DANNY

I ended up at a bed and breakfast
contemplating all the reasons why
Jessica shouldn't get married.

Danny gets up and puts his hands in his pockets.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I found out that they're getting
married in our church.

TOM

You know this Andrew guy?

DANNY

Highly respected former member of
our parish.

TOM

You have anything to do with the
former thing?

Danny nods.

TOM (CONT'D)

What are you going to do?

DANNY

Forget Jessica and marry Anna someday.
The parish needs her.

TOM

What about what your needs?

Danny picks up a brochure and starts mindlessly paging through
it.

DANNY

If I mess up this wedding, Mrs. Grey
will find some way to either get me
fired or send me straight to hell.

TOM

Speaking of hell...

Chuck struts across the showroom towards them. As he enters
the cubicle, he gives Tom a big slap on the back.

CHUCK

Great job, Tom. My old buddy Andrew called and bought that 318i that his fiancée was looking at. He wants it delivered to his office this afternoon and then next weekend we'll get the trade-in when his fiancée comes over on the ferry.

Chuck notices his reflection in the partition between the cubes and smoothes his hair.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

I gave him two hundred for that piece of junk.

Chuck tosses the keys on Tom's desk.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

Have the new BMW there by five and I'll still give you the commission on it.

Chuck turns to leave.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

One more thing, he keeps calling you Danny. The customer is always right, so your name is Danny today.

After Chuck leaves, Danny reaches down for the keys.

DANNY

If Andrew wants Danny...

TOM

What are you doing?

DANNY

I'm going to take Andrew the new car he bought for his fiancée.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - BED & BREAKFAST -- DAY

Mabel and Jessica sit on the front porch sipping iced tea.

MABEL

I sure do like that Danny.

Mabel takes an ice cube out and starts chewing.

JESSICA

You've said that six times. I like "that Danny" also. Maybe a little too much.

The ice cube flies out of Mabel's mouth.

MABEL

I knew it.

JESSICA

I mean I like him more than I would normally like my car salesman.

MABEL

Why can't you find a nice boy like Danny to marry instead of that Andrew?

JESSICA

Andrew doesn't drink, he's not a womanizer, and has a good job.

MABEL

Not like your father.

Mabel holds her head down and picks at a little string that is coming loose from her dress.

MABEL (CONT'D)

Jess, if I had it to do over again, I'd still marry him. A few moments of exquisite love is worth a lifetime of mediocrity.

Jessica moves over next to Mabel. She puts her arm around her mother.

MABEL (CONT'D)

The best thing that came out of those years was you.

JESSICA

Andrew will not love me like Dad loved you, but he'll provide our children with a good home.

MABEL

Danny could love you. Exquisite love.

JESSICA

What makes you say that after just meeting him once?

MABEL

I saw the way you kissed him.

JESSICA

I thought you went to look after the tea.

MABEL

Do I have stupid on my forehead? I
knew you two wanted to say good-night.

JESSICA

Or to spy on us from the kitchen
window?

MABEL

Give a poor woman her hobbies.

JESSICA

One kiss is not enough to determine
true love.

MABEL

You're a research scientist. Increase
your sample rate.

Mabel makes little KISSING SOUNDS as Jessica shakes her head.

INT. RECEPTION AREA OUTSIDE ANDREW'S OFFICE -- DAY

Danny stands in the reception area next to a large display
case with various miniatures of projects under Plexiglas.
Andrew walks into the area and notices Danny analyzing one
of the miniatures.

ANDREW

You must be the BMW guy.

Danny looks up and offers Andrew his hand.

DANNY

You must be the fiancé.

Andrew ignores the outstretched hand and picks up a tiny
spot of paper from the floor instead.

ANDREW

Guilty as charged.

Danny points to the case.

DANNY

Pretty amazing.

ANDREW

You might be interested in this one
after your little field trip with
Jessica.

Danny looks a little surprised and Andrew gives him a wink.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I know all about your visit to my fiancée.

Danny turns a little red and studies the models in the case. Andrew comes up to him and gives him another little punch.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I admire a great salesman. Hungry and going for the kill. Come look at this.

Andrew points to a model of the lodge and tram.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

It's a destination hunting lodge that you can only get to via a tram.

DANNY

Hunting?

ANDREW

Nothing like it in the world. We call the project Wolf Mountain Lodge. Jessica was a big part of getting this project through all the red tape.

DANNY

This is Jessica's project?

ANDREW

Exactly. It's pretty tough to build anything in a National Park so we combined our project with Jessica's wolf preserve and like magic - it's approved.

DANNY

That must have saved you a few thousand.

ANDREW

More like a couple of million. Jessica and I make a great team.

Andrew glances down at his reflection in the Plexiglas and smiles.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

I'm the picture and she's the frame.

INT. PARK HEADQUARTERS -- DAY

Jessica pages through a BMW brochure. She tosses it into the trash as Grant pokes his head into the office.

GRANT
Got a sec?

JESSICA
What's up?

Grant has a bundle of maps under his arm. He drops them on Jessica's desk.

GRANT
Something you better take a look at.

Jessica unrolls some of the maps and starts tracing over some items with her fingers.

GRANT (CONT'D)
Notice anything?

JESSICA
Of course, the tram, power generator
for the pulley, access road...

Jessica stops tracing.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
What the hell is this?

INT. PLUSH BUSINESS OFFICE -- DAY

Andrew moves down eye level with his model. He is seems to be inside the model emotionally. He caresses the top of the case.

ANDREW
This lodge will provide the finest
hunting accommodations right in the
middle of the best hunting land.
Our guests will be able to get up
early and from a few steps outside
their luxurious room, start the
stalking, the discovery and eventual
conquest of their prey.

DANNY
What about the wolves?

Andrew straightens up and comes back into reality.

ANDREW

If it goes like Yellowstone did, they'll be paying my patrons to hunt them down and kill them in one year. Isn't the government wonderful?

DANNY

I thought Jessica opposed hunting.

ANDREW

Jessica has always been supportive about my projects, in fact she's the key to getting this stuff approved. When she tells that little story she made up about the Golden Eye Indian Lovers turning into wolves - the money just pours in.

Danny is obviously shaken by this news and stares at the display case.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Jessica is very focused on what she wants from life and part of that includes "yours truly."

Andrew makes a pompous gesture towards himself.

DANNY

She's focused all right. In fact I was a little surprised to hear that you were getting this car.

ANDREW

Why is that?

DANNY

I thought she had decided to keep her old car.

ANDREW

No way am I having that piece of junk parked in my garage. She doesn't know that I'm picking this up today - but I know it's the one she likes. She kept talking about how much fun it was to drive yesterday and how much she enjoyed it.

Danny digs into his pockets and pulls out the keys. He hands them slowly to Andrew.

DANNY

Drive it slowly for the first hundred miles.

ANDREW

If there's one thing I know, it's
how to break things in.

INT. JESSICA'S OFFICE -- DAY

Jessica tears through her desk in a rage. Grant tries to pick up the maps, books, and papers that are getting tumbled to the floor in her wake.

JESSICA

Where the hell is it?

GRANT

I told you, it went out by courier
yesterday, signed by you.

Jessica slumps into her chair.

JESSICA

It can't be. I should have checked
the maps.

Grant gets up and places the fallen items back on the desk.

GRANT

Let's not get worked up until I talk
to the courier service in the morning
and you get a hold of Andrew.

JESSICA

Andrew must have gotten the plans
mixed up with another project.

GRANT

Or Andrew lied to you?

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

Anna confronts a burly DELIVERY MAN who is trying to unload a handcart of boxes.

DELIVERY MAN

Look lady, it says this address.

Anna is studies the packing slip.

ANNA

I did not order a new altar runner.

DELIVERY MAN

It was ordered by Mrs. Amanda Grey
of Mendota Heights and shipped to
here.

INT. DOCKSIDE RESTAURANT -- NIGHT

Jessica sits in the same restaurant that she and Danny visited a few nights before. Across from Jessica is SARAH, an earthy looking woman in her 40's that looks like she's stuck in the 1960's.

SARAH

You dumped him at Mom's in a panic?

JESSICA

I wouldn't call it a panic, but things were getting a little out of hand.

SARAH

It was that stalking thing you do, right? Just how scared did he get?

JESSICA

After I gave him my wolf passion speech, I looped my arm into his as we went walked out to the car.

SARAH

I've seen what you can do in the confines of a car.

Jessica smugly takes a sip of her wine.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Then what happened?

JESSICA

I leaned towards him so he could feel my breath in his ear as I suggested we drive back to the den and watch some mating.

SARAH

And how did Mr. Smooth car salesman respond?

JESSICA

He muttered something about an early morning and suggested he drive back to the ferry. I can't figure him out.

SARAH

The famous lion tamer has encountered a kitten.

JESSICA

More like a gentle farm animal.

SARAH

Bet you can't decide whether to pet
or slaughter it.

Jessica starts her ritual of chopping and mixing her dinner.
This time she isolates the peas and puts them on a separate
plate.

SARAH (CONT'D)

You're just not used to the old wolf
thing not working for you. Are you
sure this guy really is a car
salesman?

JESSICA

A different kind of car salesman.

SARAH

He's probably married or gay.

JESSICA

I can't put my finger on it but it
seems like there is something holding
him back.

The WAITRESS comes up to their table. She is the same
waitress from the other night.

WAITRESS

You're not eating your peas. Is
there something wrong with them?

JESSICA

I don't like peas.

The waitress picks up the small plate with the peas.

WAITRESS

Let me get you some carrots instead.
You should have something you like.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY -- NIGHT

Andrew and George sit in overstuffed chairs having a drink.

GEORGE

We back on schedule, pal?

ANDREW

Jessica signed the report and it was
filed today.

GEORGE

I don't want any surprises when the
money guys get here next week

Andrew picks up his glass for a mock toast.

ANDREW
Nobody hates surprises more than I.

GEORGE
I can't believe that Jessica is going
along with all this.

ANDREW
Jessica does what I tell her to.

INT. DOCKSIDE RESTAURANT -- NIGHT

The waitress returns with Jessica's carrots. She has a
puzzled look on her face, then recognizes Jessica.

WAITRESS
I know you. You're the one that was
with that guy last week.

JESSICA
How did his childcare tips work out
for you?

WAITRESS
What a lifesaver. He was right,
there is a whole network of church
members that will take Matt anytime
that I need emergency daycare. That
was one hell of a guy you were with.

JESSICA
I think you're right about that.

WAITRESS
A real looker too. Those deep blue
eyes, I could get lost in them.
Then there was the way he was with
Matt...

Jessica gestures towards the plate in the waitress' hand.

JESSICA
Could I have those carrots?

WAITRESS
I'm sorry. That was no way to talk
about another girl's boyfriend.

The waitress sets down the carrots leaves hastily.

INT. SMALL APARTMENT -- NIGHT

Anna watches the microwave turntable spin around slowly with her dinner. A fluffy white cat rubs back and forth against her legs. He PURRS loudly.

ANNA

Don't even think about it Ignacious.

Anna picks the cat up and nuzzles him. She sets him down next to his food dish.

ANNA (CONT'D)

This is your dinner.

Anna opens up the microwave and removes her meal. After removing the plastic wrap and stirring the steaming dish she starts into the front room. She looks at Ignacious who ignores his dish of catfood.

Anna SIGHS, then leans down and puts a small amount of her meal on top of his catfood.

INT. DOCKSIDE RESTAURANT -- NIGHT

Jessica has finished her meal and is leaning back sipping a glass of wine.

JESSICA

She thought he was my boyfriend.

SARAH

I can't believe you were going to play around with this guy. What about Andrew and your big wedding in a few weeks?

JESSICA

Just one more slow dance.

SARAH

I know what that means.

JESSICA

I guess that would be really stupid. I hardly know him.

SARAH

Didn't you say that you spent the whole day with him?

JESSICA

Pretty much. He came over on the last morning ferry, then we were together the rest of the day.

SARAH

That works out to about ten hours.
A normal date is what, three, maybe
four hours? That means you two spent
about three dates together.

JESSICA

What does three dates mean?

The waitress returns and quickly drops off the check and
leaves.

SARAH

It's okay to sleep together on the
third date. It's in the rule book.
Mom and Dad were married by their
third date.

JESSICA

There's a rule for that? Andrew and
I didn't sleep together until at
least our seventh or maybe it was
our tenth date. I don't remember.

SARAH

You and Andrew are no "Mom and Dad" -
that's for sure.

JESSICA

Look what happened to Mom and Dad.

SARAH

Speaking of things that can go wrong,
are you sure you're ready to be Mrs.
Andrew Grey?

JESSICA

Andrew and I are compatible. I hear
that clock ticking and I want to
have children before I'm forty.

SARAH

What about passion? Have you ever
stalked Andrew like you did this car
salesman?

JESSICA

Andrew is not the kind of guy that
would take being the prey very well.
You know how he likes to be in
control. Danny seemed so frightened,
like a rabbit. I find that very
attractive.

SARAH

You are one sick chick. So what are you going to do now?

JESSICA

I think there is a rule that you can sleep with a stranger three weeks or more before your wedding but two weeks before lacks class.

The waitress comes back to the table and takes Jessica's credit card with the check.

WAITRESS

I didn't mean for you to think that I had a thing for your boyfriend.

JESSICA

He's not my boyfriend.

The waitress brightens up.

WAITRESS

He seeing anyone?

JESSICA

I don't have a clue.

WAITRESS

If he ever mentions me, would you tell him I was asking?

JESSICA

I doubt if I'll ever see him again. It was just a business dinner.

WAITRESS

Didn't look that way to me.

The waitress smiles and winks as she leaves.

SARAH

You're never going to see him again?

JESSICA

I'm way too busy and I've decided to keep my old Thing.

SARAH

I agree that Andrew acts like an old man, but to call him a thing...

JESSICA

My car, stupid. I love my Volkswagan Thing.

EXT. FERRY TERMINAL UNLOADING AREA -- DAY

Andrew stands next to a the new BMW. Jessica has her arms folded as she circles the car like a cougar.

JESSICA

I didn't say that I didn't like it.

Andrew pulls her close.

ANDREW

You'd don't like surprises, but you haven't asked what else I have for you.

Jessica continues her stalking of the car.

JESSICA

Speaking of surprises, we need to go over the tram project. The preliminary drawings are wrong.

ANDREW

I got your rather explicit message. George will look into it when he gets time.

Andrew opens the door to the BMW for her.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

So do you like it?

JESSICA

What about my Thing?

ANDREW

Keep it until you come back in two weeks for the rehearsal dinner. Until then, I'll keep breaking this baby in for you.

JESSICA

It is lovely.

Jessica places her hand against his cheek.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

It's very generous of you Andrew.

ANDREW

It's easy to be generous to the future Mrs. Andrew Grey.

Andrew pulls her close to him again, but this time with more force.

JESSICA
Ms. Jessica Goode-Grey.

ANDREW
Goode-Grey. Thank goodness you
dropped the Goode. I'd hate to say
Jessica Goode-Grey.

JESSICA
I've had enough of my father's name.

Andrew pats Jessica's head gently.

ANDREW
Let's hope you don't dismiss me so
easily someday.

EXT. MOUNTAIN MEADOW -- DAY

Jessica and Andrew spread out a blanket in what appears to be a repeat of Jessica's lunch with Danny except Andrew goes back to the car to bring out an oversized picnic basket.

ANDREW
Tell me again, why we're eating in
the middle of a field full of bugs?

JESSICA
I love it here.

ANDREW
It's hot.

Andrew swats a fly away.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
I'd be surprised if we're not eaten
for lunch instead of us eating lunch.

JESSICA
Can't you just enjoy the scenery?

ANDREW
I'd enjoy it more from my private
timeshare. Wouldn't it be great to
have a place right over on that ridge?

JESSICA
You've got to be kidding? This is a
park.

Andrew starts unpacking the basket. He lays out gourmet items; cheeses, sauces. He uncorks a wine bottle.

ANDREW
A banquet for my queen.

JESSICA
For the bargain price of one hundred
and fifty from South Hill deli?

Andrew holds up the wine bottle appreciatively.

ANDREW
Some things are worth the price you
pay.

JESSICA
I thought the lunch I made this
morning was pretty good.

ANDREW
I thought a more appropriate fare
would...

JESSICA
I like my brown bag lunches.

Andrew offers her a wine glass. She takes it and takes a
light sniff.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
I guess this is a nice touch.

ANDREW
Let's toast to our future, and maybe
better surroundings someday.

Jessica looks around and seems appreciatively content. Andrew
eyes the ridge and holds his glass up.

INT. BMW DEALERSHIP SHOWROOM -- DAY

Tom and Danny sit in a shiny new BMW on the showfloor. The
CD is playing while they rest comfortably.

DANNY
It's like heaven in here.

TOM
You're changing your definition of
heaven preacher boy? The material
world wins.

DANNY
A metaphor, stupid. It's peaceful
in here.

TOM
 You can't even hear Chuck over there
 yelling at poor Kevin.

Danny and Tom watch as a terrified new SALESPERSON follows
 Chuck around the brochure display area straightening things
 that Chuck points at.

TOM (CONT'D)
 It's just like a vacation.

DANNY
 Speaking of vacations, it's time for
 me to get away for a few days.

TOM
 Where to?

DANNY
 Maybe do some hiking, camping, get
 back to nature.

TOM
 Running away?

Danny changes the track on the CD. He looks up at an
 imaginary sky.

DANNY
 Running to.

TOM
 You're not heading out to Jessica-
 land are you?

DANNY
 That chapter is closed. Montana
 sounds good for a few days. Ride
 some horses, get some fresh air.

TOM
 Don't they have special ranches there
 with hookers? Maybe I can get a few
 days off and go with you.

DANNY
 Straight to hell. You're going
 straight to hell.

INT. UPSCALE DEPARTMENT STORE -- DAY

Mrs. Grey and Jessica are in the fine crystal department.
 Mrs. Grey carefully compares items on the shelves to a list
 in her hand. Jessica looks bored, but is politely maintaining
 the conversation.

MRS. GREY

The full set of Waterford drinking glasses. My friends are being generous.

JESSICA

I don't know where I'm going to put all this stuff.

Jessica looks at a printout that she was given from the registry kiosk.

MRS. GREY

In that new house of yours, that's where. What a fine house Andrew has built for you. It's twice the size of the one he built for his first wife.

JESSICA

Nobody got Andrew that barbecue set. I'll go find it and buy it for him.

Jessica heads towards the patio section. Danny is nearby in the luggage department looking at various backpacks and trying a few of them on. He looks up and sees Jessica and Mrs. Grey.

He quickly starts to exit out of the other end of the department and runs into large cardboard cutout of a cruise ship instead. The CRASH gets Mrs. Grey's attention and she notices Danny.

Mrs. Grey waves at Jessica.

MRS. GREY

Jessica come with me and meet Father Sullivan.

Jessica doesn't hear her or ignores her as she continues towards housewares. Danny makes a bad choice and decides to hide under the cutout. It is human size, but Mrs. Grey quickly grabs the cutout and holds out a hand for Danny.

MRS. GREY (CONT'D)

What are you doing under there?

Danny stays down and is looking in the distance for Jessica. He holds onto the cutout for cover.

DANNY

Mrs. Grey, what a pleasure to see you again.

He ignores her outstretched hand and stays under the cutout.

MRS. GREY

Did the new altar runner come in?

Danny nods but is still not making eye contact, as he looks for Jessica.

MRS. GREY (CONT'D)

Come out of there and meet my future daughter-in-law.

Mrs. Grey now joins Danny in his search for Jessica.

MRS. GREY (CONT'D)

There she is. It looks like she's buying something. Stay right here and I'll go fetch her.

DANNY

I have to leave. I'm late.

Danny gets up. He still has the cruise ship cutout in front of him.

MRS. GREY

Why are you carrying that ship around?

DANNY

This?

Danny looks down at the cruise ship and pauses. He looks up and sees Jessica turn towards them.

DANNY (CONT'D)

It's prize for the spring bazaar. We're raffling off a cruise ship.

MRS. GREY

A whole cruise ship?

DANNY

I better run. I'm already late.

Danny takes the sign and turns in the other direction. The sign is large and burdensome and he knocks picture frames to the floor, turns and knocks down some stuffed toys across the aisle.

He has a difficult time keeping the sign covering him and picking up the display items. Mrs. Grey moves into the aisle as Jessica joins her.

MRS. GREY

You missed meeting Father Sullivan. No loss, he's a strange one.

Mrs. Grey points towards a fleeing Danny.

MRS. GREY (CONT'D)
That's him with the big sign going
down the aisle.

Jessica can only get a glimpse of Danny as he goes around
the corner, but something sparks her interest.

JESSICA
Who did you say that was?

MRS. GREY
Father Sullivan. I'm sure he's put
out about not getting to perform
your ceremony.

JESSICA
Why would he be put out?

MRS. GREY
He performs most of the wedding
ceremonies because he works with the
youth group.

JESSICA
Why isn't he performing ours?

MRS. GREY
The Bishop will be doing it. We're
only using their church because ours
is booked. I wouldn't have Father
Sullivan anyway. He insulted our
family.

JESSICA
How did he insult your family?

MRS. GREY
He gave a sermon on the evils of
child labor. We were so embarrassed
that we switched churches. If our
foreign factories didn't employ
children, they'd starve. It's the
least we can do for them.

JESSICA
The least.

INT- BMW DEALERSHIP SHOWROOM -- DAY

Danny sits across from Tom who is on the phone. Teresa leans
over top of the divider.

TERESA
Nice boat, Father.

Danny glances at the cutout of the cruise ship.

TOM
(into the phone)
They all sound a little rough at first Mrs. Allens. Remember that your new BMW has a much larger engine than your old one.

Tom opens his desk drawer and gets out a mirror. He checks a spot on his tooth.

TOM (CONT'D)
What happens then?

Teresa comes around the divider and whispers to Danny.

TERESA
Have you ever noticed how much car salesmen are like the tiger family?

DANNY
You mean big claws, sharp teeth, vicious attacks on unsuspecting customers?

Teresa shakes her head.

TERESA
They have short bursts of energy, fall asleep, followed by hours of doing nothing.

DANNY
That sounds like Tom. You should see him around the house.

TERESA
They spend the rest of the time preening themselves.

Teresa makes a gesture of licking a paw and smoothing down her hair.

TERESA (CONT'D)
Really sounds like Tom doesn't it?

Tom tries to listen to both conversations as he puts down the mirror.

TOM
I'm not preening. I have something
in my teeth.

He realizes that he's still on the phone.

TOM (CONT'D)
(into the phone)
I was talking to someone else. No,
no, I understand Mrs. Allens, click,
click then clump. You don't need to
take the phone out into the garage
and start the car.

Tom holds the phone out a few inches.

TOM (CONT'D)
I think she hung up on me. Didn't I
sound honest.

Danny shakes his head.

TOM (CONT'D)
Speaking of honest, how about breaking
up marriages, hiding from your
parishioners...

Tom taps the cruise ship cutout. Danny turns to Teresa.

DANNY
Let me explain.

TERESA
Save yourself some energy, Father.
We all know what's been going on.
Tom gives us daily updates on your
broken heart. It's the talk of the
dealership.

Danny reaches across the desk towards Tom. Tom pushes back
his chair out of reach.

TERESA (CONT'D)
Every time her fiancée calls to get
one more thing for that BMW, the
switchboard operator pages overhead
on the speaker "Tom, line four is
the fiancée of the woman that your
brother-in-law is trying to break up
the wedding of. Line four for broken
engagements."

Danny lunges for Tom.

TOM

Remember your vows, Father. Poverty,
patience, and non-violence.

Tom holds up the two finger peace sign.

DANNY

Take a deep breath Tom, because the
next time I hear you talk about me
and Jessica, it will be your last
breath.

Tom smiles.

TOM

I'm so scared.

INT- UPSCALE DEPARTMENT STORE -- DAY

Jessica watches a seamstress work on the hem of Sarah's
bridesmaid dress. Sarah's hair is a funny shade of orange.
Sarah pulls the skirt up and displays her orange sneakers.

SARAH

I really tried to get this to match
the dress like your mother-in-law
said.

JESSICA

She said shoes. Get your shoes dyed
to match the dress, not your hair.

SARAH

You can't get anyone to do a good
job dyeing Nikes nowadays. Speaking
of Nikes, did you hear that Michael
Jordan is going to be at Niketown
tomorrow night? Let's go see if we
can get him to autograph my belly.

JESSICA

We've got a rehearsal at the church
tomorrow night, then a rehearsal
dinner.

SARAH

Sounds like a wonderful pre-wedding
time.

Jessica looks through her day-planner and makes a few notes.

JESSICA

I'm spending the night at Lori's so
I don't have to go back and forth on
(MORE)

JESSICA (CONT'D)
the ferry. Andrew didn't think I should stay with him since all his relatives are in town for the wedding.

SARAH
You and Lori going man hunting tomorrow night? Can I come over and caddy for you?

JESSICA
We might go hunting, but I'm leaving the bullets out of the gun. You're welcome to come, I'll meet your ferry.

SARAH
No more thoughts of your car salesman?

JESSICA
Another place another time, he could have been my alpha wolf. I tried calling him at the dealership a few times, but I'd hang up as soon as they put me on hold.

SARAH
I knew it. You are still going after him.

Jessica shakes her head.

JESSICA
These past few days my mind has been absorbed with thoughts and images of him, but that's just normal animal passion. Nature's way. I'll deal with it.

SARAH
Why not act on it?

JESSICA
That's for animals.

SARAH
One last question and then I'll give you a passing pre-wedding exam grade. Does your hesitation have to do with the fact that he's a car salesman?

Jessica jumps up. Here comes the speech.

JESSICA

I can't believe that you're being so stereotypical. Danny is a wonderful caring and compassionate man. You should have seen him with this little boy in the restaurant, and then helping this lady on the ferry get her car off...

SARAH

Sounds like a lady in love to me.

Jessica pauses.

JESSICA

Just a mild infatuation. I'm dealing with that too.

Sarah smiles as she heads for the dressing room.

SARAH

You certainly sound like you're dealing with it.

INT. CHURCH -- DAY

Mrs. Grey and a FLORIST and PHOTOGRAPHER are walking up and down the aisles of the church. Mrs. Grey gestures where she wants flowers and camera shots.

The two professionals hastily follow her making copious notes. Father Morgan enters the church from behind the altar and greets Mrs. Grey.

FATHER MORGAN

It's wonderful to see you today, Amanda.

He warmly takes her hand. She shakes it off and starts pointing around.

MRS. GREY

There are a few things that just won't do. First of all the rug in the area where the Bishop will stand.

FATHER MORGAN

I'm so sorry to have to tell you this at such a late date, but the Bishop has become ill. You remember all the difficulty he had last year with his blood pressure, it's gotten serious and he's in the hospital.

MRS. GREY

This is terrible news. Who is his office sending to perform the ceremony?

Father Morgan smiles and shakes his head at her lack of concern for the Bishop.

FATHER MORGAN

I'll perform it. I was able to rearrange my schedule to fit it in for you.

MRS. GREY

Are you sure that you know all that we had prepared? Although I went over minor details with your daughter about the church, I sent detailed instructions regarding the ceremony to the Bishop's secretary, I guess I have a copy of it...

Mrs. Grey digs through her notebook. She retrieves a few type pages.

MRS. GREY (CONT'D)

Here it is. Let's see we can run through a few of these things right now. First you need to wear the red...

Father Morgan takes the sheets of paper from Mrs. Grey and folds them into his pocket.

FATHER MORGAN

I'll try my best to figure this out later. I have a ladies auxiliary meeting to greet downstairs.

The large church doors open as Andrew and Jessica enter.

FATHER MORGAN (CONT'D)

I see the lovely couple coming now.

Father Morgan makes a quick getaway.

MRS. GREY

Just terrible news, Andrew. The Bishop has taken ill.

JESSICA

How serious is it?

MRS. GREY

Bad, very bad. We're going to have to settle for Father Morgan.

Andrew puts a comforting arm around his mother.

MRS. GREY (CONT'D)

I don't know what Susanna Dillingham will say. Both of her daughters were married by the Bishop. I hope this news doesn't get out before the wedding. It might affect who will be attending.

JESSICA

Guests wouldn't show up just because someone else is performing the ceremony?

MRS. GREY

If word gets out, we'll lose the Talbots, they only attend this church when the Bishop is in town. Then there's the Franklins, and the...

JESSICA

I didn't know our wedding was such an event.

Jessica sits down in one of the pews. Mrs. Grey runs up and gently tugs on her arm to get up.

MRS. GREY

So much to do. Andrew, did you have your fitting for the tux? Jessica did your dress fitting go okay? I called them and changed the veil. That style you picked was for an evening wedding instead of morning...

ANDREW

Slow down Mother. Let's let Jessica look around the church where she will be married.

Andrew guides her to the front of the church.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Will this be satisfactory?

Jessica smiles sweetly at Andrew and starts her inspection of the church. She looks under the pews, rubs the carpet with her hand, tests the strength of the kneelers. She is obviously making fun of the inspection.

All of this is being observed from behind the altar by Danny. He carefully remains out of sight and laughs softly. Barbara notices Danny and comes quietly up behind him and whispers.

BARBARA
Quite a show isn't it?

DANNY
That she is.

BARBARA
Do you know Andrew's intended?

DANNY
I sold a car to her.

BARBARA
You sold Andrew Grey's fiancée your Honda?

DANNY
A car from Tom's dealership, a new BMW. She thought I was a salesman. We had dinner, I missed the ferry, and I spent the night. It's a long story.

BARBARA
By the look on your face, it's a juicy one. Get in here...

Barbara pulls Danny into the vestibule behind the altar by his ear. They move into a small office.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

Barbara sits Danny down in a chair.

BARBARA
Spill it preacher boy, and don't leave anything out.

DANNY
The story is no longer important because it ends with her getting married this weekend to that guy.

BARBARA
I've been at this job for over thirty years and the one thing I know about weddings, is that things can go wrong. Not just a few days before the wedding, but even a few minutes before.

(MORE)

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Let's not talk about the finality of a wedding, let's talk about the look in your eyes out there.

DANNY

If you insist.

BARBARA

I insist.

DANNY

I was pretending to be a car salesman as a favor for Tom.

BARBARA

That no good brother-in-law of yours. Now that's a wedding that should have been stopped. How that sweet sister of yours, could marry that heathen Tom and then bear him three kids in three years? I just don't know what she was thinking, so bright and sweet, and pretty, throwing her life away for a no good, worthless...

DANNY

About Jessica?

BARBARA

I get so carried away when it comes to bad matches.

DANNY

Jessica came in to pick out a BMW that her rich fiancée wants her to have because he hates the car she owns.

BARBARA

Controlling rich snob...

DANNY

Exactly. But she needed to test drive it where she works in the mountains. I take it up there and you know... sparks fly.

BARBARA

It's about time for you Danny, When did you tell her that you're not a car salesman and a preacher boy instead?

DANNY

There wasn't an appropriate moment.

Barbara reaches into her drawer and takes out a folded newspaper and swats Danny on the head.

BARBARA

Did someone forget to tell you that you're an Episcopalian priest and not a Catholic priest?

Barbara swats him again.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

You are supposed to get married. You're supposed to date. What is wrong with you preacher boy?

She starts to swat him again and he ducks and takes the newspaper from her.

DANNY

I know we can marry, but what kind of woman wants to marry into a life of poverty? And believe me I've been on dates. As soon as you tell them what you do for a living, it's "I'm sorry I said that Father" or "excuse me Reverend, I didn't mean that."

BARBARA

What about Anna?

DANNY

All she aspires to be is a church secretary for the rest of her life.

Barbara starts to grab the newspaper again, but Danny gets up and puts his arm around her.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I was just kidding. Nothing wrong with being a church secretary. You are the best and if you were single, I'd come after you.

BARBARA

Single, and twenty years younger, I hope. I've got my guy and I would have married him if he was poor or even if he lived in his parent's basement.

(MORE)

BARBARA (CONT'D)

When you find someone that makes you look the way you did at that future ex-Mrs. Grey, you have to go after it, regardless of the circumstances. I know she's engaged and you feel you have to do the honorable thing and step aside, but did I ever tell you the story of how me and Bert met?

Danny shakes his head.

DANNY

I'm sure you're going to.

BARBARA

Watch it, I can still reach that newspaper.

Barbara starts pacing as she begins her story.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

I was engaged to be married to this rich fella from Portland. Back in those days, the freeway from Seattle to Portland was pretty bad, so I took the train down there about a week before my wedding. On this train was this young man. Oh my, he was so handsome. Now, he didn't have any money, but he was a struggling artist working with charcoal, I think. We got friendly on the way down and he wanted to sketch me and I agreed. While he was sketching me, the train derailed and we were tossed everywhere. Next thing I knew, the train was upside down and on fire. The poor boy got me outside but he was trapped inside.

DANNY

This is the story of the Titanic.

BARBARA

Shut up and listen. You're missing the point. I made it to the next town on foot and that's where I met Bert.

DANNY

And what happened to the artist?

BARBARA

The important thing is that everything happens for a reason and there is a reason why you met Jessica and a reason why she is getting married here in this church and you've got to do something about it.

Danny shakes his head sadly.

DANNY

I got there after the train had left the station.

INT. CHURCH -- NIGHT

The rehearsal has started and the FLOWER GIRL and RING BEARER giggle and push each other. They are about five years old. Jessica follows them up the aisle and comes along side of Andrew and Sarah.

JESSICA

They are adorable.

ANDREW

This won't do.

Andrew steps off the altar and talks to his mother. Another woman, their GRANDMOTHER, comes up and all of them start arguing. Sarah leans over and whispers.

SARAH

I think the kids are getting fired. Who's the big mother hen?

JESSICA

Their grandmother, an old friend of Mrs. Grey's.

Suddenly the grandmother shoves Andrew. Andrew steps back and puts his hands up in mock defeat.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

When will my guy learn that it's nature's way for a mother and especially grandmothers to protect their young?

EXT. NIGHTCLUB -- NIGHT

Jessica, Sarah and LORI, a young lady in her late twenties sit at a bar drinking and eating chips. Sarah's attention is focused on the room full of men, but Jessica and Lori are seriously nursing their drinks.

LORI

Call him now.

JESSICA

He's not the one night stand kind of guy.

LORI

I didn't mean to sleep with. Where is your head?

JESSICA

Must be a bride's desperation.

LORI

Talk to him. What did he want to tell you that night? Why did he drive to the ferry instead of to the wolves? I don't know many guys that can fend off Jessie's hit.

JESSICA

Give me a break. I didn't come on that hard.

Just then a partially DRUNK guy comes up behind Jessica and puts his hand on her shoulder. Jessica turns around and gives him a stare.

LORI

We're talking here.

DRUNK

It's her I'm interested in, unless you two are a couple of...

The drunk moves his hand down to her side and squeezes.

JESSICA

Remove the hand or take a deep breath of air.

DRUNK

Are you going to give me a deep wet kiss?

JESSICA

Take a deep breath of air because it will be your last if you don't remove your hand.

The drunk removes his hand and walks away shaking his head.

LORI

See what I mean? There aren't many great guys out there. I know you think you've snagged one in Andrew.

JESSICA

What's wrong with Andrew?

LORI

You say that you want kids, but wasn't Andrew married before and they never had kids?

JESSICA

They were only married two years and Andrew said that she didn't want any.

LORI

Well I saw the ex-Mrs. Andrew Grey last week and she's out to here.

Lori gestures to an imaginary large stomach.

LORI (CONT'D)

Have you seen Andrew actually sitting and down playing with his nieces and nephews?

Sarah turns her attention back to the duo. She loves an argument.

SARAH

We just came from the rehearsal and I thought Andrew was going to kill those two kids by the end of the rehearsal.

Sarah hops off her chair and wanders away.

LORI

Did Andrew let them stay in the ceremony?

JESSICA

Only after his mother begged him. Then he took them outside and made them practice over and over how to walk in unison. It was cute.

LORI

Cute like Hitler was cute?

Lori turns to look towards the dance floor.

LORI (CONT'D)

Look at Sarah, she's doesn't have any problem playing with kids.

Jessica turns around and sees Sarah on the dance floor. She is dancing with two guys, obviously years younger but loving it.

JESSICA

Can you imagine her in the pink chiffon maid of honor dress my mother-in-law picked out?

LORI

Sarah will probably knock out the flower girl and pose as that. Sarah obviously doesn't feel any pressure to get married. What is she now forty, forty-five?

JESSICA

Forty-three pushing twenty-three. I don't think she has the same agenda as I do. My master plan was to be set in my career by twenty-five, married by twenty-six and two children by twenty-nine. I'm right on schedule.

LORI

Maybe a little too scheduled?

EXT. FERRY TERMINAL UNLOADING AREA -- DAY

Danny stands at the unloading area for the ferry. Jessica is in one of the last vehicles off the ferry and pulls to the side after she exits. Danny runs up to the Thing and gets in.

JESSICA

I thought your manager was going to meet me.

DANNY

Tom had a meeting that he couldn't miss.

Danny smiles and looks longingly at Jessica.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I had something I wanted to tell you.

Jessica reaches into her purse and pulls out a cell phone.

JESSICA
 Let me call Andrew first and let him
 know I'm here and to meet me at the
 dealership.

Jessica dials the number.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
 (into the cell phone)
 Andrew Grey.

Jessica turns towards Danny.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
 He has the nicest receptionist.
 (into the cell phone)
 I understand, tell him that I'll see
 him tomorrow.

DANNY
 Problems?

JESSICA
 More than normal. The consortium
 came into town today and Andrew has
 to wine and dine them.

DANNY
 I'm not a big winer and diner, but I
 know where to get great food.

JESSICA
 You asking me out? You got something
 for women who are about to be married?

Danny pats her hand.

DANNY
 Just dinner. Car salesmen prefer
 married women.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY -- DAY

This is a plush hotel lobby, overstuffed chairs, fireplace
 burning and elegant flower arrangements.

Andrew is in a small sitting area with George. They are
 studying plans spread across the coffee table.

ANDREW
 I told you it would be fantastic.
 Look at the east wing. There is
 room for forty exclusive timeshare
 units.

George takes his own plans from a briefcase.

GEORGE
What about this trail?

ANDREW
I told you that Jessica will fix it.
She's a wonder with red tape.

GEORGE
This project is going to bring every
bleeding heart animal lover out of
the woodwork.

ANDREW
I hold the trump card in Jessica.
She brings credibility to the whole
project.

GEORGE
You better be right, Andrew. We've
sunk everything we have into this
project.

A WAITER sets down a glass of wine in front of Andrew. Andrew glares at the waiter.

ANDREW
I hope this is a better year.

The waiter seems uncomfortable, but waits patiently. Andrew takes a sip, pauses, then smiles.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
I expect the wine and food to be on
this level when we have dinner later
and not the poor standard that you
brought me earlier.

WAITER
I thought you had asked for our house
wine.

Andrew turns towards George.

ANDREW
Can you believe that? Me drinking
house wine?

Andrew turns towards the waiter.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
I'll indicate when we're ready for a
table.

The waiter leaves slowly shaking his head.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Here's to a project that's going to
make both our firms very rich.

INT. PIZZA PARLOR -- NIGHT

Jessica and Danny are in a pizza parlor teeming with screaming kids and a sports coach. They seem oblivious to the noise in a secluded corner table.

DANNY

You going to eat that last piece?

Jessica laughs and hands Danny the last piece of pizza.

JESSICA

I never thought we could finish that
whole pizza when it came.

DANNY

I can't believe that you ate the
pizza without chopping it up into
little pieces.

JESSICA

Pizza is already mixed up. That's
what makes it the perfect food. I
love pizza.

Danny reaches over and takes her hand.

DANNY

That's one of the things I love about
you.

JESSICA

This is not the time or place to
talk about love.

DANNY

We do have to talk.

JESSICA

We've been avoiding talking to each
other by consuming massive quantities
of beer and pizza.

DANNY

I don't know about the pizza, but I
haven't drank this much beer since
college. I think I finally have the
courage to tell you this.

Jessica puts her finger on his lips again.

JESSICA
Shh -- no talk of love. I don't
think this is the time for long
confessions.

Danny takes her hand from his lips and turns her palm up and
kisses it lightly.

DANNY
What is it the time for?

JESSICA
Based on the fact that I get married
in less than twenty-four hours, I
think that it's the time for you to
wish me best wishes.

DANNY
I've spent my whole life giving people
my best wishes. I'd like to give
you more.

JESSICA
Define more.

DANNY
I don't have much to offer and that's
what I wanted to tell you.

Jessica holds her hand to his lips again.

JESSICA
Show me instead.

INT. BEDROOM -- DAY

The bedroom is in total disarray. There are clothes, socks,
shoes everywhere. A closer view of the bed reveals two forms,
one face down with a pillow over his head and the other just
a pair of feet with manicured toes.

There is a GROAN as the head at the bottom of the bed comes
out from under the covers. Jessica squints as she looks at
the clock. She springs out of bed, grabbing the sheets around
her. She sits back down and grabs her head.

Jessica GROANS again and stumbles to the bathroom gathering
her clothes along the way. Danny is awakened by the SHUTTING
of the bathroom door. He also squints at the clock and
GROANS.

Danny manages to sit up just as Jessica comes out of the
bathroom. He offers a faint smile.

DANNY
Good morning, I think.

JESSICA
My head hurts too.

DANNY
Coffee?

JESSICA
Never touch the stuff, although if
it would stop the pounding in my
head, I think I would try it.

DANNY
I'll make you some tea instead and
we'll talk.

JESSICA
I've got to get to Lori's and get
myself together.

DANNY
How about in a couple of hours after
you've recovered?

JESSICA
In a couple of hours, I'll be on my
way to my wedding.

DANNY
You can't get married. What about
last night?

JESSICA
I've got four hundred people coming,
two years of a relationship with
Andrew, a home, and a family.

DANNY
You can't throw away a big fat piece
of a hunting lodge, right?

JESSICA
What in the world are you talking
about?

DANNY
You can't throw it all away for a
flaky car salesman any more than you
could marry a struggling artist or a
poor minister.

JESSICA
What hunting lodge?

DANNY

Your big "save the wolf" act. All that bullshit so you and your boyfriend can get rich hosting hunters.

JESSICA

I don't have a clue what you're talking about. Are you still drunk?

DANNY

That's it. You think I'm a drunk like your father.

JESSICA

You think I'm a money grabbing whore.

DANNY

There are three types of people in this world. Those that protect, those who need protection, and those that we try to protect against.

JESSICA

I certainly don't need your protection.

DANNY

I thought I was attracted to a protector. Looks like you're really the third kind.

Jessica looks around for something to throw. She picks up a book, then notices that it's a bible. She lays it gently down.

JESSICA

I don't know what your talking about and I don't care. Last night was a just a last minute fling.

Jessica leaves. Danny GROANS and puts his head in his hand.

DANNY

Maybe for you.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

Danny sits at the desk drinking coffee and hanging his head down. Barbara walks in, startled to find Danny.

BARBARA

Preacher boy, you scared me to death.

DANNY

I just didn't know where to go.
Last night Jessica and I -- well
last night we -- I mean Jessica and
I -- we...

BARBARA

Do the Greys know that the wedding
today is canceled?

DANNY

It's not canceled. She's still going
to marry him.

BARBARA

You've got to be kidding.

Danny reaches into her drawer and pulls out the newspaper.
He rolls it up and hands it to her.

DANNY

She's not the person I thought she
was.

BARBARA

You look like shit. Let's go get
some breakfast. Pull yourself
together, while I stop by Father
Morgan's office and give him his
morning coffee.

Barbara starts out the door and runs into Anna.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

How long have you been standing there?

Anna pushes pass Barbara and confronts Danny.

ANNA

You never wanted to marry me, did
you?

Danny gets up and holds her hands.

DANNY

We don't love each other.

ANNA

Love is overrated. My parents didn't
love each other. They loved their
service to God.

DANNY

Your mother was miserable, Anna.
She hated being a pastor's wife.

ANNA

I want to be a pastor's wife. I've wanted it my whole life.

DANNY

But I don't.

ANNA

You don't want to be the pastor?

DANNY

I don't want to be the pastor's wife.

Anna looks down at the floor.

DANNY (CONT'D)

You should be the pastor of this church Anna, not me. I'm happy working with the kids, not all the politics.

ANNA

You think? Me a pastor? I'd have to finish school, apply to the council...

Anna reaches for a pad of paper, sits down at the desk as Danny follows Barbara out the door.

INT. BEDROOM -- DAY

Jessica tries to get dressed as Lori and Sarah look on. The bedroom is scattered with the trappings of the preparation for a formal affair; shoes, bows, makeup and hair brushes.

Jessica is frustrated as she tries to find various items that she needs. Lori and Sarah just sit and watch with amusement.

JESSICA

You are supposed to be helping me.

LORI

What you need a good bop on the head.

Lori finds a hair brush and makes a gesture with it.

JESSICA

It just doesn't matter. He wasn't as special as I thought.

SARAH

Not as good under the sheets as he looks?

JESSICA

That was fantastic, in fact
incredible.

SARAH

That's usually enough for me to want
to have a second date.

JESSICA

A second date, but not a lifetime.
He insinuated that I was in my
profession and after Andrew for the
money.

LORI

I'm not surprised he thinks that.

JESSICA

What do you mean?

LORI

The lodge that you and Andrew are
building is going to make you very
rich.

JESSICA

We're not building a lodge. Where
did you hear that?

LORI

Andrew himself. He said that your
wolf thing was just to get the tram
and a hunting lodge built.

JESSICA

You must be mistaken, there is no
lodge. The tram is just a viewing
platform to help tourists see the
wolves without disturbing them.

LORI

That's not what George and Andrew
have been saying. Haven't you seen
that model of the project in his
office?

JESSICA

Andrew doesn't like me to visit his
office, he says that it's a
distraction and appears unprofessional
to the staff.

LORI

Especially, when he's got one hand on that receptionist and another on the model of the lodge.

SARAH

Looks like you need to have a talk with Andrew.

JESSICA

Your right about that.

Jessica starts towards the door. She is fully dressed in her wedding dress but is still wearing hair curlers and tennis shoes.

EXT. CONDO COMPLEX -- DAY

Jessica pulls up to a lushly landscaped condo complex in her new BMW. She gets out of the car wearing her wedding dress and tennis shoes. Andrew walks across the courtyard also dressed in formal attire.

ANDREW

You sounded so upset on the phone.

JESSICA

Talk to me about the lodge.

ANDREW

That's what you're upset about? I thought it was something serious.

JESSICA

I think a hunting lodge is serious.

ANDREW

I can't get funding for a tram that goes nowhere. The lodge is somewhere.

JESSICA

And you'll have hunters in the park?

ANDREW

This is just not something to be concerned with right now.

JESSICA

If you're building a lodge, it's something we have to be concerned with.

ANDREW

If you don't want a lodge, I'll call the consortium when we get back from our honeymoon and work it out.

JESSICA

Just like that?

Andrew puts a protective arm around Jessica.

ANDREW

Anything you want. Let's get you to the church.

Jessica pulls up her gown to reveal the shoes.

JESSICA

I guess I better call Lori and get some shoes brought to the church.

ANDREW

Good idea, my mother would just die if she saw those.

Andrew ushers her towards the BMW and frowns at the curlers in her hair.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

You might want to rethink your hair style too.

EXT. SIDEWALK CAFE ALONG THE WATERFRONT -- DAY

Danny and Barbara finish their breakfast.

BARBARA

I never thought you two were right for each other.

Danny helps Barbara up.

DANNY

You're the only gal for me, right?

They leave their table, but Danny goes back to leave a tip. He and Barbara start walking along the waterfront just as the sidewalk vendors start setting up their booths.

Danny stops at the first VENDOR, a Native American Artist who places some artwork out along the wall. Danny is transfixed by one of the paintings. As we look closer, it is two wolves falling off a cliff through a ray of sunlight.

Danny grabs it and takes it to the vendor.

DANNY (CONT'D)

What is the story of these two wolves?

VENDOR

It's the story of why wolves have yellow eyes. An old Indian legend of two lovers...

Danny drops the painting and grabs Barbara's arm

DANNY

The legend was true. I called Jessica a liar. I'm so stupid, stupid.

BARBARA

My feelings exactly. Let's get back and I'll go see if Father Morgan is feeling any better.

DANNY

Father Morgan is sick?

Barbara pauses as if caught at something.

BARBARA

He didn't look too good when I dropped off his coffee.

Barbara WINKS at Danny.

DANNY

What did you do?

INT. LUXURY CAR -- DAY

Andrew drives as he talks on the cell phone.

ANDREW

(into the cell phone)
Kill the lodge project.

He swerves to avoid hitting a car that has slowed in front of him.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Not forever. God, I'm not stupid.

Andrew smiles and checks his hair in the rear view mirror.

INT. FATHER MORGAN'S OFFICE -- DAY

Barbara peaks in the door and sees Father Morgan. He SNORES loudly, with his face flat down on the desktop.

Barbara smiles and heads towards her office.

INT. CHURCH OFFICE -- DAY

Danny sits at the desk and looks up to see Barbara in the doorway who is shaking her head.

BARBARA

Father Morgan is out like a rock. Must be those blood pressure pills of his. I tell him to only take one, but he forgets and takes two maybe three at a time.

DANNY

What did you do?

BARBARA

I don't know what to do when he doesn't listen to me. That reminds me of the time that he...

DANNY

No more stories, Barbara. Just the facts.

BARBARA

You're going to have to perform the wedding ceremony.

Danny jumps out of the desk.

DANNY

I can't.

BARBARA

Just go into Father Morgan's office. His whole sermon for the ceremony is written and on his desk. His robes are in the closet.

Barbara gives Danny a gentle push on the rear.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

No time to wait. Get going.

Danny turns and faces Barbara.

DANNY

Are you deaf? I can't perform Jessica's wedding.

BARBARA

Someone has to. Looks like you've got some tough decisions to make. Does giving your life to God mean having no life?

Barbara smiles and brushes past Danny.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Do you think God wants Jessica to
marry a lying and cheating guy with
great teeth?

INT. CHURCH -- DAY

The church is set for a wedding. It is packed with guests, there are flowers everywhere and a soloist is singing a SONG softly. The final guests are being brought down the aisle Andrew brings a proud Mrs. Grey to her first pew seat.

Andrew takes his place next to the best man. The ORGAN starts the first few notes of the WEDDING MARCH and the guests stand. Danny slips in from the vestibule dressed in vestments as Jessica starts down the aisle on the arm of her mother.

Danny has a pained look on his face but he slowly takes his place next to Andrew. Andrew takes a puzzled look at Danny, but is distracted by Jessica's progress which is stopped.

Jessica is almost two thirds up the aisle when she lifts her veil. She drops the veil and continues at a faster pace. She ignores her dad and lifts the veil herself when she reaches the steps.

DANNY

We are gathered here to join...

Jessica grabs Danny's arm.

JESSICA

What are you doing here? Are you
crazy?

DANNY

Jessica and Andrew in this
sacrament...

ANDREW

Jessica, what's wrong?

Jessica points at Danny.

JESSICA

Look at him.

Andrew looks at Danny and gasps. Danny looks down at his book and continues calmly reading.

DANNY

I mean, sacred sacrament of matrimony.

JESSICA
Will you stop? This is your idea of
a joke?

Jessica shakes Danny. Andrew grabs Danny by the other arm.

ANDREW
What are you doing here?

The BEST MAN becomes concerned.

BEST MAN
What's wrong?

Andrew holds up Danny's arm - as if it's proof.

ANDREW
He's a car salesman.

Danny stares deeply into Jessica's eyes.

DANNY
Matrimony is a sacrament not to be
taken lightly.

JESSICA
I'm not.

Danny leans forward and whispers.

DANNY
Especially after last night.

ANDREW
What do you mean about last night?

DANNY
It is a sacred trust between two...

Jessica turns towards Andrew.

JESSICA
It was nothing. We went out for
pizza and beer, nothing more.

DANNY
I think it was more.

JESSICA
If you remember, it ended badly.

Andrew pokes a finger into Danny's chest.

ANDREW
You did it with my fiancée?

INT. CHURCH PEWS -- DAY

Sarah and Mabel sit directly across from Mrs. Grey and her family. Mabel leans over and whispers to Sarah. Sarah says a little too loudly.

SARAH

I think they slept together last night.

Mrs. Grey leans across the aisle towards Sarah.

MRS. GREY

Who slept together?

A OLDER LADY in the row behind, leans forward and whispers to Mrs. Grey.

OLDER LADY

I think she was talking about your future daughter-in-law and the car salesman.

The lady looks up and down at Danny.

OLDER LADY (CONT'D)

I think my car is getting up there in miles.

MRS. GREY

She slept with a car salesman the night before her wedding?

Sarah points at Danny.

SARAH

She slept with him.

MRS. GREY

We have a car salesman performing the ceremony?

Mrs. Grey gets up and looks hard at Danny.

MRS. GREY (CONT'D)

You're wrong. That's Father Sullivan. How can this be? Where is Father Morgan?

MABEL

Jessica brought him home last month.

MRS. GREY

Jessica brought Father Morgan home?

MABEL

She brought Danny home and now I think she's in love with him. He's obviously in love with her to dress up like a priest to stop the wedding.

MRS. GREY

He is a priest, you idiot.

MABEL

He's a car salesman.

MRS. GREY

I'm going to get to the bottom of this.

Mrs. Grey walks towards the altar.

MABEL

Sit down Amanda.

MRS. GREY

I won't allow this travesty to continue.

Mabel gets up and grabs Mrs. Grey's arm. She makes a fist with the other hand.

MABEL

Take a deep breath Amanda, it's about to be your last one if you don't sit down.

Barbara comes out of the vestibule.

INT. CHURCH ALTAR -- DAY

Danny pulls away from Andrew and takes Jessica to the side.

DANNY

I tried to tell you so many times last night, I'm a priest.

Jessica SCREAMS.

JESSICA

I slept with a priest?

Andrew comes up behind Danny and Jessica.

ANDREW

I've heard enough.

Andrew reaches out to strike Danny, but Barbara tackles Andrew from behind.

BARBARA
Here's a little prayer for you.

INT. CHURCH -- LATER

The church is cleared out and there are just remnants of a wedding. Something has obviously happened, Danny's robes are off, Jessica's gown is ripped, there are flowers strewn about.

Danny and Jessica sit on the bottom step that leads up to the altar.

DANNY
I was wrong to think you made up the
wolf story to get money for the lodge.

JESSICA
I was a fool to believe Andrew and
you were a fool to think I couldn't
fall in love with car salesman -- or
worse -- a penniless preacher.

She kisses him on the cheek as she pulls off the priest collar.

JESSICA (CONT'D)
Not like a Catholic priest -- you
can marry?

DANNY
Episcopalian priests can marry, be
married, get married, perform
marriages...

Father Morgan stumbles out of the vestibule with his hair in disarray. Danny and Jessica stand up.

Father Morgan sees them and continues his wobbly walk across the altar.

FATHER MORGAN
We are gathered here today...

Danny takes Jessica's hand and kisses it.

DANNY
Marry me?

Jessica nods.

JESSICA
It's nature's way.