DELILAH

Ep. 101

"Everything to Everybody"

Written By

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Directed By Cheryl Dunye

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DOUBLE GREEN	DRAFT(11.02.2020)
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DELILAH

Episode #101 - "Everything to Everybody" - Double Goldenrod Draft

(11.04.2020)

CAST LIST

Delilah	Maahra Hill
Tamara	Jill Marie Jones
Harper	Ozioma Akagha
Demetria	Susan Heyward
Maia	Kelly Jacobs
Marcus	Braelyn Rankins
Dion	Khalil Johnson
Leah	Saycon Sengbloh
Nate	Leonard Harmon
Масе	Joe Holt
Gordon	Lyriq Bent
Cindy	Adrian Eppley
Win	Gray Hawks
Florence	Amani Cain
Gary	Brian Lafontaine
Jane Ann	Amy McDonald
Mr. Fields	Lindsay Ayliffe
Anita	Doris Woodruff

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SET LIST

INTERIORS

Delilah's Townhouse Delilah's Bedroom Boys' Bedroom Maia's Bedroom Kitchen Dining Room Hallway

Connolly Law Office Reception Area Delilah's Office

Leah Davis' Apartment Dining Area Living Room

Harriet Jacobs High School Auditorium

Leland Park Technical College Gordon's Office

Win Lockley LLP Tamara's 30th Floor Office Win Lockley Jr.'s Office

V.A. Rehab Center Hallway Common Area

Violin Shoppe

EXTERIORS

Delilah's Townhouse

Somewhere in Charlotte

Charlotte Street

Connolly Law Office Front Porch Sidewalk Near Office

Leah Davis' Apartment

Harriet Jacobs High School

Upscale Charlotte Neighborhood

Gary Shea's House

Glass Skyscraper

V.A. Rehab Center

Violin Shoppe

Lakeview Middle (Marcus' School)

CARS Delilah's Lexus White Land Rover Harper's Vintage Car Mace's Car Tamara's Porsche Cayenne

The Capital Grille

TEASER/ACT ONE

101.1 EXT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - PREDAWN (D1) 101.1

Establishing this lovingly-maintained middle-class home in Charlotte'S 4th Ward. NO LIGHTS are on in any windows on this block. A CAR drives slowly by, sending NEWSPAPERS sailing onto doorsteps. The CAR clears. <u>BEAT</u>.

A FRONT DOOR in the middle of the block opens and a SMALL DOG on a leash steps out, followed by **ANITA THOMAS (70's, A-A)**. Anita locks the door behind her and then walks away from us, down the block, and then turns a corner. Gone. BEAT. BEAT.

Then we hear DING! A text coming into a cell. DING!

101.2 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - DELILAH'S BEDRM. - PREDAWN (DD)1.2

DELILAH CONNOLLY (40's), her hair wrapped in a SCARF, is blearily fumbling to find her CELL in the too-bright light of the bedside table. She finally finds it folded in the sheets behind her, then finds her GLASSES under SCATTERED PAPERWORK. She puts on the glasses and focuses on the CELL. Frowns.

DELILAH

(very sleepy) ...Leah Davis? Seriously? You're gonna text me at four-forty-two in the morning for the Alumni Fund?

She gives a little head shake -- she's not dealing with this crap right now. She turns off the sound on her cell, sets it aside, then removes her glasses, tosses them onto the bed, and flops back onto her pillow, eyes open: <u>BEAT</u>: gradually realizing that she is NEVER going to get back to sleep.

101.3 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - MAIA'S BEDROOM - DAY (D1) 101.3

DELILAH, dressed for work, in a style we'll call Approachable Professional, is braiding her daughter MAIA's (16) hair while Maia plays VIOLIN passionately. MARCUS calls from elsewhere.

> MARCUS (O.S.) Mom! MOM...!

DELILAH Marcus, I am doing your sister's hair! I cannot be everywhere at once! If you need me, come here! Maia moves around erratically as she emotes while she plays.

DELILAH (CONT'D) Honey, could you stop playing for one minute while I finish this...?

MAIA The performance is Friday.

MARCUS (O.S.) Dion won't put on a sweater!

Delilah finishes a braid and then heads for the door --

DELILAH Maia, pack up, let's go --

-- but Maia keeps playing as Delilah exits --

101.4 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS (D1) 101.4

Delilah passes through, talking (sorta) to herself --

DELILAH I can't remember the last time I said something in this house and a person just did it. It had to be --

-- she stops briefly to LEVEL A PICTURE FRAME ON THE WALL --

101.5 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - BOYS' BEDROOM - DAY (D1) 101.5 -- and then steps into this messy room with a BUNKBED.

> DELILAH -- like, Christmas or something -when I said, "Open it" -- that has to be the last time anyone OBEYED.

REVERSE TO REVEAL **MARCUS (11)**, dressed for school, sitting on the edge of his bed texting on his CELL PHONE while Dion sits on the floor, struggling with SOCKS. Delilah looks at Marcus. DELILAH (CONT'D) Is this how you dress a child?

Marcus DOESN'T RESPOND. Delilah squats down to DION (6) --

DELILAH (CONT'D) I'm the invisible maid.

-- scoops Dion around, pulls on his socks, getting it done!

DION I see you, Auntie Delilah.

DELILAH I know you do, baby, you're the only one. Marcus, brush your teeth.

Marcus stands, staring at his CELL as he heads for the door.

MARCUS I'm talking to Ian about trig.

DELILAH

Uh huh, here's some trig, brush those rectangular teeth of yours.

MARCUS That's geometry.

Delilah considers taking Marcus to task for that response, but thinks better of it. Marcus exits. Delilah lifts Dion up.

DELILAH

Dion, you have to wear a sweater.

He shakes his head. She grabs a CARDIGAN --

DELILAH (CONT'D) If I show up at the V-A with you on Sunday and your mama sees I let you catch a cold before I sent you home, do you know what she'd do to me?

-- and puts it on him, kisses him and stands.

DELILAH (CONT'D) Now go brush those teeth.

Dion exits. Marcus, TEXTING, steps back into the doorway.

MARCUS Is she really gonna take him home?

DELILAH

All I can do is go off what your Aunt says. She said she's coming Sunday to the V-A to take him.

MARCUS

But she's SAID he could come home before to VISIT and called it off.

DELILAH Marcus, I know you want your room back. It's been a hard five months.

MARCUS SIX in five days. SIX months.

DELILAH Well, the fact you're counting the days is a real inspiration.

She sighs and steps past him and into the hallway. He turns but stays in the doorway and the STEADICAM reverses onto him.

> MARCUS You shouldn't use sarcasm with children, they don't understand it.

DELILAH (O.C.) See, THAT one I completely accept, but it's WEAKER 'cause of that one about geometry. Pick your battles. Then Delilah sweeps into frame, her back to Marcus, walking into the hall with Dion in her arms. He looks in her eyes --

DION Smell my breath.

-- and blows.

DELILAH Beautiful. Maia, let's GO! (after a beat) Marcus, is that phone super-glued to your hand...? Put it away!

ON MARCUS, as he rolls his eyes, pockets the phone, moves --

101.6 EXT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - DAY (D1) 101.6

-- DELILAH, HARRIED, steps out, holds the door as the kids file past. She's on her CELL, with BRIEFCASE.

DELILAH (into her cell) Did Angie send the affidavit?

ANITA (O.C.) Morning, Ms. Connolly!

Delilah looks to see Anita returning from her long walk.

DELILAH Morning, Ms. Thomas!

ANITA Are you getting your steps in?

DELILAH (to Anita) I'm trying!

ANITA You gotta get those steps in!

Delilah gives a litle nod and wave. Anita enters her house.

DELILAH (into the cell) Did she sign the affidavit?

Intercut as necessary with:

101.7 INT. CONNOLLY LAW OFFICE - RECEPTION AREA - DAY (D1) 101.7

HARPER (late 20's), Delilah's paralegal and executive assistant, is at her desk, sunny and efficient as usual.

HARPER

Not yet.

DELILAH Tell her we can't get that restraining order filed until it's signed. The world is real.

HARPER The world is real. Got it.

DELILAH And if anyone calls with a new case, any new case, I'm too busy.

She points the remote at the car -- BEEP -- and they get in.

HARPER Apropos of that, you've got Demetria Barnes coming in at two.

DELILAH Demetria Barnes. Who is she?

HARPER

Just some woman who called wanting an informational interview... (after a beat) ...do you want me to cancel?

DELILAH

Yeah, do, I've got lunch with Tamara today, and I don't want to rush back across town just to have someone looking at me like I've disappointed them somehow, I get enough of that at home.

HARPER Okay, I'll cancel. Done!

MAIA REALLY funny. (off Delilah's look) ...what? DELILAH (to Harper) Actually -- don't cancel. That's rude. She's arranged her day --

HARPER -- I can totally reschedule --

DELILAH -- no, I'll do it, thanks, bye.

She hangs up, buckles Dion in his carseat: CLICK CLICK CLICK.

DION Thank you.

DELILAH

For what?

DION Buckling me in.

DELILAH Oh. You're welcome.

She kisses his forehead and starts shutting the door --

DION Can I FaceTime Dad?

-- OFF DELILAH as she says --

DELILAH

Uh huh --

-- and shuts the door, BANG.

101.8 I/E. DELILAH'S LEXUS/LAKEVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY (D1) 101.8

ON DELILAH'S CELL, IN DION'S HANDS: **NATE** (30's): Delilah's brother, talks while rolling down a path in his WHEELCHAIR.

NATE Are you psyched to be going home?

DION I drew Mama a picture! You too!

Delilah pulls up to Marcus' school. Marcus gets out --

DELILAH No Jefferson Park after dark!

MARCUS

I know!

-- shuts the door. She watches Marcus run toward the school: her constant concern and love for him is visible on her face. She lingers in this moment -- until she hears Nate's voice --

> NATE (O.C.) I can't wait to see my picture!

-- and then the spell is broken, she looks back to Dion --

DELILAH -- Dion, can I talk to Daddy a sec?

DION I wanna tell him a joke.

DELILAH I'll give it right back.

Delilah takes the cell from Dion. She looks at Nate on it.

DELILAH (CONT'D) Does Christine need me to do anything to help her get ready for Dion? Should I check in with her?

NATE No, she's all set.

DELILAH You sure about that?

NATE Yeah, Dee, she's all over it.

DELILAH Guess who texted me? Leah Davis.

NATE If she's looking for ME --

DELILAH

-- I don't know WHAT she's looking for, it's probably about the Alumni Fund, she calls every year about this time, I'm not gonna respond --

NATE -- yeah, don't, that girl is seven different kinds of crazy.

DION I wanna tell my joke!

DELILAH Here, sorry, baby, tell your joke.

Delilah hands the cell to Dion and pulls out. DELILAH'S HANDS re-grip the wheel as she keeps driving. ON DELILAH --

DION (O.C.) Knock knock. NATE (O.C.) Who's there?

BEAT.

DELILAHwho's there, Dion?

DION (O.C.) I'm thinking!

101.9 EXT. CONNOLLY LAW OFFICE - DAY (D1) 101.9

It's an unfussy free-standing building -- a residential home, at one point, but no longer -- with a parking lot in back. Delilah pulls in next to HARPER'S VINTAGE BMW and parks. 101.10 INT. CONNOLLY LAW OFFICE - RECEPTION AREA - DAY (D1) 101.10

Harper's at her desk (with HEADSET) as Delilah walks in.

HARPER Good morning again!

Harper holds out a COFFEE CUP to Delilah. (Note: on Harper's desk is a JAR with A PICTURE WRAPPED AROUND IT, one of those things where people collect money for a child's cancer fund.)

HARPER (CONT'D) We finally got the check from the Haynes settlement, do you want me to go ahead and dismiss that case?

DELILAH Yeah, thank you.

HARPER

And Nona Benson called, she's got another pregnancy discrimination case she wants to know if you --

DELILAH -- no, no new cases, I can't.

-- she finally heads full-speed for her office door.

HARPER And Leah Davis is in your office.

OOP. Hearing that name stops Delilah in her tracks.

HARPER (CONT'D) I hope it's okay I let her in. She said she was Nate's girlfriend once and she lived with you and Tamara --

DELILAH

She DID have an off and on thing with Nate and she DID live with me and Tam for one year, when she was a freshman and we were seniors. But I don't know WHAT she's doing here.

Delilah exits into her office. Harper's LANDLINE RINGS.

HARPER (into her headset) Good morning, Connolly Law Office?

101.11 INT. CONNOLLY LAW OFFICE - DELILAH'S OFFICE - DAY (D1)101.11

Delilah walks in and adopts A GUARDED, PERFORMED SUNNINESS.

DELILAH Leah! What's up, girl?

LEAH DAVIS (40's, rough around the edges) turns from looking at PICTURES OF THE KIDS to A PICTURE OF DELILAH AND TAMARA on the bookshelf to face Delilah. She looks TIRED and FRAGILE.

LEAH

Hey.

Delilah sets her PURSE and BRIEFCASE down.

DELILAH

When Harper said you were here, I was, like, "Is it Alumni Fund time already? I can't do it this year!"

LEAH It's not about the Alumni Fund.

DELILAH

Good, because this is NOT the year I'm gonna be giving, not after LAST year, know what I'm saying...?

Delilah sits.

DELILAH (CONT'D) 2020 'bout cleaned me out.

Leah's still lingering by the bookshelf.

INSERT: PHOTOS: DELILAH WITH TAMARA; one of MAIA AND MARCUS.

LEAH (re: the pictures) You still hang with Tamara?

DELILAH Yeah, look, Leah, I've got a Zoom about all the new state regulations about returning-to-work in, like, SEVEN AND A HALF MINUTES, so if you wanna tell me what's going on...?

LEAH Yeah, I'm, uh...

Leah walks over, sits. FRAGILE. She might burst into tears.

LEAH (CONT'D) ...I'm just kinda in over my head.

DELILAH

How so?

LEAH I don't know, Dee, I tried to do the right thing at work and I -- I got myself into a mess of trouble. (after a beat, desperate) I need your help.

OFF DELILAH --

DELILAH

ACT TWO

A101.12 INT. CONNOLLY LAW OFFICE - DELILAH'S OFFICE - DAY (D1A101.12

ON DELILAH'S DESKTOP COMPUTER, WE SEE A ZOOM MEETING IN PROGRESS, A WHOLE GRID OF FACES. Delilah has got the thing on mute, i.e., she's missing the crucial meeting in order to hear Leah's tale. Leah's crying. She blows her nose.

DELILAH

Okay, just start at the beginning.

LEAH

I was working as an assistant to the CEO at this company over in Gastonia, Osbourne Tactical? We make equipment for the military. I should say "THEY." They fired me.

DELILAH Is this about wrongful termination?

LEAH Totally. All I did was ask my boss a few questions about Gary Shea --(MORE)

LEAH (CONT'D)

-- he was this software engineer who got fired a couple months earlier. Before he got fired, he'd been trying to get a sit-down with Fred -- Fred's the C-E-O, he was my boss -- saying there was a MAJOR PROBLEM with the C-15, this radio he "designed" or whatever --

DELILAH

-- Leah, I -- I've gotta stop you right there, I'm NOT the right lawyer for this case --

LEAH

-- I thought this is what you do --

DELILAH

-- it's a part of what I do, yes, but I'm not taking this case!

LEAH

-- but Dee, you're all I've got. (after a beat) They're watching me.

DELILAH

Who's watching you?

LEAH

Osbourne! And it's not just that, things are really bad, I'm getting evicted, I'm behind on my car payments --

DELILAH -- but you JUST got fired --

LEAH

-- 2020 was tough!
 (after a beat)
You said so yourself.

Leah starts CRYING. OFF DELILAH -- TORN --

101.12 INT. CONNOLLY LAW OFFICE - RECEPTION AREA - DAY (D1) 101.12

Delilah leads Leah out from Delilah's office. She gives Harper a sidewise look to indicate she's "handling" Leah.

DELILAH I'll let you know tomorrow about the case, Leah, but we'll get your Answer filed in the meantime.

LEAH My answer to what?

HARPER That's what the form's called we

have to file to make sure your landlord can't evict you TODAY.

LEAH I can't pay you. I've got, like --

DELILAH -- I know, it's all good.

LEAH Alright, thank you, Dee, so much.

HARPER

Bye!

Leah exits. BEAT. Delilah turns to Harper, about to speak.

HARPER (CONT'D) I thought you said no new cases. DELILAH I'm NOT taking the case. Just for fun, though...

HARPER

...uh huh?

DELILAH

Have Mace look into a guy named Gary Shea. See why Osbourne Tactical let him go. And find out why Leah was let go too.

Harper's LANDLINE rings. Delilah exits into her office.

HARPER Connolly Law Office. (after a beat) Yes, Ms. Barnes, she has you on her schedule today for 2 P-M. You too.

Harper is just about to hang up but Ms. Barnes keeps talking.

HARPER (CONT'D) SURE, I can check the bus schedule for you, hang on, I'll pull it up.

101.13 EXT. HARRIET JACOBS HIGH SCHOOL - DAY (D1) 101.13

Maia and FLO (Maia's accompanist and best friend) are walking on a path outside the school on their way to class. Maia's carrying her VIOLIN CASE and BACKPACK; Flo, some MUSIC BOOKS. There are (possibly) A FEW OTHER STUDENTS in the background.

> MAIA You can't even call it a violin at this point. It's more like a neck banjo, the strings are so loose.

FLORENCE It doesn't sound that bad.

MAIA

'Cause I'm working so hard! And even then, when I start to do my vibrato on that resolving D, it's like Grandma's bowel movements.

FLORENCE

You're crazy.

MAIA

I don't know what to do. We've got this thing on Friday, then State ---I can't play this thing at State!

FLORENCE My Uncle Ted might be able to fix you up with something better.

MAIA I can't afford anything better.

FLORENCE Maybe he'd give you a deal. The old friends and family discount... (after a beat) ...it's worth a shot, anyway.

MAIA I don't know. Maybe.

OFF THE PAIR, WALKING AWAY --

101.14 OMITTED

101.14

101.15 I/E. DELILAH'S LEXUS/CAPITAL GRILLE - DAY (D1) 101.15

Delilah pulls up, talking on her Bluetooth --

DELILAH You can't miss it.

Intercut as necessary with:

101.16 INT. LELAND PARK TECHNIAL COLLEGE - OFFICE - DAY (D1) 101.16 -- with GORDON LEIGHTON (40's), literary, slippery: her EX.

> GORDON I thought it was just a public practice session before State.

DELILAH It is, and she's your daughter.

GORDON I've got a dinner with my editor.

DELILAH

Change it.

The VALET comes to open her door. She shakes her head.

GORDON He's just in from New York for one night. I'm asking for an advance.

DELILAH (after a beat to give up) Okay. YOU have to tell Maia.

GORDON Fine, I'll see what I can do.

DELILAH And I haven't gotten your child support this month yet, have I?

GORDON Well, if I could do this dinner, I'd probably be able to pay it.

DELILAH Gordon, it's two hundred dollars!

GORDON I'll see what I can do.

DELILAH How about stop seeing what you CAN do and start DOING what you SHOULD?

INSERT: DELILAH'S FINGER ON THE SCREEN HANGS UP THE CALL. She grabs her purse, gets out, hands her keys over, goes in.

101.17 INT. THE CAPITAL GRILLE - DAY (D1)

101.17

Delilah is sitting across from her **TAMARA ROBERTS** (40's). Tamara is sharp, glamorous, but with a deep earthy vein.

> TAMARA You are NOT taking that case.

DELILAH I SAID I wasn't going to!

TAMARA

Yeah, but that's how you get ready to say you WILL, I know you.

(after a beat) Dee, what do you think the chances

are that girl getting her ass fired had ANYTHING to do with injustice?

DELILAH

It COULD have...

TAMARA

Dee, Leah Davis is a magnet for trouble. She's like one of those people that calls from the side of the road with a flat tire and their spare is flat, too, talking about how life isn't fair, YOU HAVE TO KEEP THAT SPARE FILLED, GIRL! LIFE'S FAIR, YOU'RE JUST LAZY!

DELILAH

You're bad.

TAMARA

That is the skankiest move ever, playing like she's Erin Brockovich when you KNOW she just showed up for work one too many days with vodka breath, walking funny. (after a beat) What do they make? Osbourne.

DELILAH

Radios. For the military.

TAMARA

What can go wrong with a radio anyway? You can't get the Top 40?

Delilah SMILES. A FEMALE SERVER delivers their food.

TAMARA (CONT'D) You are NOT taking that case.

DELILAH (to the Server) Thank you.

The Server clears. Tamara picks up her fork. She's HUNGRY.

TAMARA

Moving on.

DELILAH

How's Casey?

TAMARA

He's taking me to D.C. next month. Some big conference on reparations, legislative strategies, whatever, the Mayor's too busy to go, so, the Deputy Mayor finally gets a trip.

DELILAH

Is this your guys' first trip away?

TAMARA

Except for that weekend at Nags Head, early on, but this'd be the first PUBLIC appearance, yeah.

DELILAH

Things are moving right along.

TAMARA

(can't let it go) And how could you even CONSIDER taking her case when you know she stole your boots? Dee, come ON!!

DELILAH

I'm not taking the case!

TAMARA

That girl STOLE your boots and WORE THEM, EVERY DAY, telling us all they were HER BOOTS when the BOX still had YOUR DAMN NAME ON IT! (getting riled up) Gimme her number right now --

DELILAH

-- I don't have it on me --

TAMARA

-- Dee, you started the whole story with her texting, I know you have her number, give it here! Give it!

DELILAH Is this how you are at Lockley?

TAMARA

EFFECTIVE? Yeah. (after a drink) They've got enough old white men playing "After you, Alphonse," they hired Tamara Roberts to get it DONE and that's exactly what I do. (after a beat)

Promise you won't take her "case."

DELILAH

I promise I won't take the case.

TAMARA

I'm putting "case" in quotes.

DELILAH I caught that. I won't take it.

TAMARA Good. Moving on. 101.18 INT. CONNOLLY LAW OFFICE - RECEPTION AREA - DAY (D1) 101.18

DEMETRIA BARNES (30's) sitting across from Harper. Her hands are folded over her PURSE. She's dressed in BRIGHT COLORS. She watches Harper working. They exchange smiles. She peers into the conference room and then, leaning forward in a furtive way, into Delilah's office. She sits back. <u>BEAT</u>.

> DEMETRIA Is it just the one office?

> > HARPER

Excuse me?

DEMETRIA It's just Ms. Connolly's office and the conference room, that's it...?

HARPER There's a copy room around that corner -- and a bathroom.

Demetria points to the WINDOWED WALL behind Harper.

DEMETRIA And what's that back there?

HARPER Dr. Price. She's a therapist.

DEMETRIA Is Ms. Connolly tardy often?

Harper sees Delilah in the window approaching --

HARPER

Ask HER.

-- Delilah enters and greets Harper first.

DELILAH

Hey!

Harper SMILES TENSELY re: Demetria and hands over PAPERWORK.

HARPER (forced gaiety) Here's the Davis Answer!

DELILAH Thank you -- Delilah turns to Demetria -- Demetria's clocking THE ANSWER.

DELILAH (CONT'D) -- you must be Ms. Barnes.

DEMETRIA I am, I am Demetria Magic Barnes, recently of Georgetown University Law Center, and what an honor it is to meet you, Ms. Connolly.

-- and they shake hands. Demetria does it with gusto.

DELILAH I'm so sorry I'm late.

DEMETRIA Are you? I didn't notice.

Delilah looks at her office door, then gets an idea.

DELILAH Would it be okay if we took a walk?

Demetria looks at her HIGH HEELS and then at Delilah.

DEMETRIA Uhh, sure!

101.19 EXT. SIDEWALK NEAR DELILAH'S OFFICE - DAY (D1)

101.19

Delilah and Demetria walk and talk.

DELILAH

So what do you want to know? (off Demetria' thinking) This is an informational interview, right? What do you want to know?

DEMETRIA

For starters? Just, basically, like, what advice do you have for a young Black woman seeking to make her way in the legal profession?

DELILAH

Don't have kids. (off Demetria's look) That was MOSTLY a joke. I'd say, if you're doing it for money, do it for money. If you're doing it for people, do it for people. For me, it's all and ONLY about people.

DEMETRIA

Oh, I know.

DELILAH ...why do you say it that way?

DEMETRIA You're why I went to law school.

DELILAH

(not buying it) I've never heard this one.

DEMETRIA

It's true! It was about six years ago, I had just graduated from Howard with a double major in Afro-American Studies and Spanish, my mother's people are from Cuba --

DELILAH

-- so you speak Spanish?

DEMETRIA

De hecho, sí, que es solo UNO de los activos que podría aportar a su pequeña operación --

DELILAH

-- okay, very nice, very nice --

DEMETRIA

-- and I was thinking I'd TEACH Spanish, but then I saw YOU on TV. You were suing the city on behalf of some girl, I forget her name --

DELILAH

-- "Jane Doe" --

DEMETRIA

-- right, that's why I don't remember! But she'd been wrongly committed to a mental hospital for driving a nice car, basically?

DELILAH

The police officers who stopped her didn't believe a young Black woman could own a BMW, that's correct --

DEMETRIA

-- but the way you talked about LAW on the steps of the courthouse after you lost that case -- which, I don't know how THAT happened ---- but the way you talked about the law as the "first inheritance of every man, woman and child" and how "Where there is not equal justice, there can never be understanding"? That's why I applied to Georgetown.

DELILAH

Well, whether that's true, Ms. Barnes, or whether you just dug that up online, I'm impressed.

DEMETRIA

Then hire me. I'm available!

Delilah stops walking and turns to Demetria.

DELILAH

If I could, I might, but as you said back there, en español, I DO run a very small operation, and I do not have enough work to support an associate, especially not one with student loans like the ones I assume you're carrying. Sorry.

DEMETRIA

Final answer? Because with all the summa cum laudes I've collected, I am pretty much the Golden Goose.

DELILAH

I think that's absolutely true.

Delilah starts walking back towards the office --

DEMETRIA

One thing you should know, though.

-- and then she stops and turns, prepared for more P-R.

DELILAH What's that, Ms. Barnes?

DEMETRIA That Answer your assistant handed you, that's the old template. (MORE)

DEMETRIA (CONT'D) The state passed a bill last week, it's in the Civil Code, Section 1951.9, long story short, they'll just hand that back if you file it. (after a beat) That one's for free.

Demetria walks past Delilah. OFF DELILAH -- AMUSED --

101.20 EXT. CONNOLLY LAW OFFICE - FRONT PORCH - DAY (D1) 101.20

Harper meets up with Delilah as Demetria heads off.

DELILAH Best of luck with the job search!

DEMETRIA Appreciate you!

HARPER She is a real piece of work.

DELILAH She knew all about YOUR case.

HARPER (taken a bit aback) ...did she know it was me?

DELILAH

No, but she knew all about it. Apparently it made a very big impression on her. So. There.

Delilah turns to enter the office, then remembers something --

DELILAH (CONT'D) -- oh, I almost forgot.

HARPER (pulled back in) What do you need?

DELILAH

She said there's a new template for the Answer online. Check it out.

Delilah exits into the building. It hits Harper that Demetria caught her out. BUS BRAKES SCREECH. HARPER'S POV: A BUS pulls up. Demetria boards. It pulls away. OFF HARPER -- <u>IRKED</u> --

101.21-22MITTED

101.21-22

101.23 I/E. DELILAH'S LEXUS/CHARLOTTE STREET - DAY (D1) 101.23

DELILAH'S CAR DRIVES THROUGH THE CITY --

DELILAH (O.S.) Mr. Cunningham, whatcha got for me?

Intercut as necessary with:

101.24 I/E. MACE'S CAR/SOMEWHERE IN CHARLOTTE - DAY (D1) 101.24

It's MASON "MACE" CUNNINGHAM (40's), Delilah's go-to P.I..

MACE

From everything I could find, Gary Shea was a beloved employee at Osbourne who chose early retirement with a hefty gold parachute.

And now we're INSIDE THE CAR WITH DELILAH --

DELILAH So he wasn't fired like Leah said?

MACE Not according to H-R. MACE (CONT'D) As for Leah, they said they let her go for the same reasons she told you. Lateness and insubordination. And I ran a background check on her, just for the hell of it --

DELILAH

-- never a bad idea --

MACE

-- turns out she was involved in a domestic dispute at the home of Fred Osbourne, the C-E-O of the company, little over a month ago.

DELILAH

About what?

MACE

The report doesn't say, but a neighbor I spoke to said Leah and the wife really went at it.

DELILAH Over what? Over Fred?

MACE That's what the NEIGHBOR thought.

OFF DELILAH -- DISAPPOINTED AND RUEFUL --

101.25 EXT. LEAH DAVIS' APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY (D1) 101.25

A recently-constructed building for young professionals.

DELILAH (O.S.) So, Leah, look, as I suspected...

101.26 INT. LEAH DAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY (D1) 101.26

Delilah is just in the doorway. Behind Leah, on the floor, Delilah sees FRAMED ART leaning against the walls. This life of Leah's is obviously very much a work-in-progress.

> DELILAH ...I'm just too busy.

Delilah offers her a MANILA ENVELOPE.

DELILAH (CONT'D) Here's the Answer to contest the eviction. And there are some names of other lawyers in there you can contact. That's all I can do.

LEAH It's okay. Osbourne H-R just called.

DELILAH They did?

LEAH

Yeah.

They said if I just sign a thing and let 'em take my phone and my laptop, they'll pay me out.DELILAH Why do they need your phone and laptop?

LEAH

Who cares? They're giving me a year's salary. I'll get new ones.

DELILAH What do they want you to sign?

LEAH It's just a one-page thing. They just messengered it over. Here.

Leah hands over the ONE-PAGE DOC. Delilah reads it over.

DELILAH

It says they want the passwords to all your e-mail and social media accounts. AND they want you to authorize them to audit all those accounts? You can't sign this.

LEAH

But I have to, to get the money, don't I? Isn't that what it says? I'll just start new accounts.

DELILAH

Did they say why they SUDDENLY decided to call and offer all this?

LEAH I assume it's because they knew I'd been to see YOU. They were scared.

DELILAH They knew you came to my office?

LEAH

Yeah, they said there'd be no need to run this letter by you, it was just a standard kinda H-R thing.

DELILAH

How did they know you came to see me, though? I don't understand.

LEAH I told you, Dee, they're WATCHING. But that's not even the point, the point is you SCARED 'em...! (pointing, impressed) ...you're GOOD!

OFF DELILAH -- PIQUED BY THIS STRANGE NEW DEVELOPMENT --

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

101.27 INT. LEAH DAVIS' HOUSE - DINING AREA - DAY (D1) 101.27

Delilah's INTENSELY looking at Leah's LAPTOP on the table. Behind Delilah, we see THAT FAMOUS PICTURE OF AUDREY HEPBURN, framed and hanging on the wall. The place is CLUTTERED.

DELILAH

So this is all the e-mails from Gary to Fred that you saved...?

LEAH

Yeah.

DELILAH Can I ask a personal question?

LEAH

I guess, yeah.

DELILAH

Were you...romantically involved with Fred, like, having an affair?

LEAH What would make you think that?

DELILAH

There's a police report that says you showed up at his house drunk --

LEAH

That was the night of the day Fred fired me. I got lit and went over there. It's not my proudest moment, but he's fifty-five and white, he ain't putting it down like that. Delilah looks and looks at Leah, wanting to believe her. She turns again to the E-MAIL FOLDER. OPENS ONE. READS. Then --

DELILAH What's a frequency-hopping radio?

LEAH

A radio that changes channels constantly so no one can hack into it; listen in while you talk.

DELILAH

And Gary thought this frequencyhopping radio was faulty somehow?

LEAH Not faulty. Dangerous.

BEAT. Delilah focuses in and TALKS WHILE SHE READS.

DELILAH Dangerous how...?

LEAH

I don't know.

BEAT. Delilah gently closes the laptop, and turns to Leah.

DELILAH

Leah, if I wrote you a check to cover your rent this month, would you hold off signing that thing?

LEAH

It says I have to sign by the end of the day today or no deal.

DELILAH You can sign it tomorrow, trust me.

LEAH Well, sure, then, okay.

DELILAH And what's Gary Shea's number?

LEAH I'll get it for you.

Leah goes to get her phone. Delilah looks around and then at the Audrey Hepburn picture on the wall. OFF DELILAH --

101.28 EXT. THE VIOLIN SHOPPE - DAY (D1) 101.28

Establishing this CHARMING, OLD-WORLD MUSIC STORE.

101.29 INT. THE VIOLIN SHOPPE - DAY (D1)

MR. FIELDS (50's, safe, A-A, the guy you wish was your Dad) is behind a counter showing Maia and Florence a VIOLIN.

MR. FIELDS This one's a heck of a deal. It's a Rovetta, from 1898, it's got this nicely-figured oppio back here --

He shows it to Maia, who's clearly trying to seem credible.

MAIA -- yeah, that's beautiful --

MR. FIELDS -- and listen to it, most violins from this period are like nails on a chalkboard, but try this one.

MAIA I don't want to break it.

MR. FIELDS Flo's told me how you play.

Maia carefully accepts the violin and PLAYS. It sounds GREAT.

FLORENCE Maia, it's SO much better.

MAIA How much is it?

MR. FIELDS Well, that's not the CHEAPEST --

Maia VISIBLY DESPAIRS. Flo sees this and tries to help.

FLORENCE -- couldn't she just RENT it?

MR. FIELDS This one? No. It's on consignment.

FLORENCE So could she borrow it then?

MR. FIELDS And what if something DID happen to it? Miss Virginia would just be OUT her violin? She'd have to buy it. 101.29

MAIA Who's Miss Virginia? MR. FIELDS The woman who owns it. She used to be in the National Symphony in D-C.

Maia looks and looks at it. Then at Flo. Then at Mr. Fields.

MAIA How much is it?

101.30 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT (N1) 101.30

Maia and Dion are eating dinner as Delilah sits, sets her PLATE down. Her CELL is in hand, mid-call. Dion clocks it.

DELILAH ...TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS?

MAIA It's worth a lot more than that!

Marcus enters from the back with a BASKETBALL, goes to sit.

DELILAH Ah, ah, hands first.

Marcus HUFFS, exits into the kitchen.

DELILAH (CONT'D) (into the cell) Mr. Shea, this is Delilah Connolly calling AGAIN, if you could give me a call, I'd appreciate it, thanks.

She hangs up, sets the phone down, clocks Marcus washing up.

DELILAH (CONT'D) And where have you been?

MARCUS Jefferson Park.

DELILAH What did I say JUST THIS MORNING?

Marcus dries his hands off and re-enters and sits.

MARCUS Dang, okay, I won't do it again!

DELILAH (pivots back to Maia) That one you've been playing cost us what, Maia, twelve hundred...?

MAIA Yeah, and that's how it sounds.

DELILAH I can afford, maybe, THREE.

MAIA Can I ask Dad?

DELILAH You can ASK, but --

MAIA -- thank you, can I be excused?

DELILAH (after a beat) Sure, clear your plate, God bless.

Maia exits. Delilah shakes her head. Dion clocks Marcus, eating, still acting SULLEN/DEJECTED. Dion looks at Delilah.

DION No phones at the table.

DELILAH

Oh. Yeah. Sorry, baby. My bad.

She sets the CELL on a nearby counter. OFF DELILAH ---

101.31 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT (N1) 101.31

Marcus dries dishes while Delilah washes. "Irreplaceable" plays on a stereo in the living room. Delilah is PREOCCUPIED. Marcus sees this. Feels bad. He starts swaying, trying to catch her eye. She smiles. The CHORUS LANDS. Marcus SINGS.

> MARCUS You must not know about me, you must not know about me, I could have another you in a minute, matter of fact, he'll be here in a minute -- baby --

ON DION, AT THE NEARBY DESK, ROLLING UP HIS PICTURES AND TYING A RIBBON AROUND EACH OF THEM. HE TURNS TO WATCH --

MARCUS (CONT'D) -- you must not know about me, you must not know about me, I could have another you by tomorrow ---- don't you ever for a second get to thinking you're irreplaceable.

DELILAH

Come here.

Marcus goes to her. She hugs him.

DELILAH (CONT'D) I just want you to be safe.

They keep embracing. DION RISES AND HEADS FOR THE STAIRS.

DELILAH (CONT'D) Dion, where are you going?

-- AND HE GOES UPSTAIRS.

Delilah, having seen this, releases Marcus. He gets back to drying dishes but we go OFF DELILAH -- WATCHING DION ASCEND --

101.32 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - BOYS' BEDROOM - NIGHT (N1) 101.32

Dion is on the bed, holding a BLACK LIGHTNING ACTION FIGURE. CLOSE ON DION: we see he's UPSET. Delilah enters, CONCERNED. DELILAH Everything okay up here? She sits down on the edge of the bed, lets out a breath.

DION

Yeah, I guess.

DELILAH

Is something the matter?

Dion looks at the action figure and then at Delilah.

DION

Do you think Marcus would maybe let me take this home with me Sunday?

DELILAH I'm pretty sure he would, yeah.

DION He said no.

DELILAH I'll talk to him, okay? (off his stillness) Is something else the matter?

DION

(after a beat) Do you think Mom and Dad could just come and live here with us...?

DELILAH

But your Mom's ready to take you back, I bet she's got everything set up super-special for you.

DION

I know.

DELILAH

Aw, Dion.

He leans forward into her. She opens her arms and holds him.

DELILAH (CONT'D)

You've got so much going on for such a little boy, don't you? God must think you're really something to give you so much going on. He must really think you're amazing. OFF DELILAH -- HOLDING ONTO DION, THINKING OF HERSELF --

101.33 EXT. UPSCALE SUBURBAN CHARLOTTE NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY (D2101.33

PANNING DOWN THROUGH TREES, WE FIND DELILAH'S CAR moving slowly down a winding residential street, headed for a CUTE SUBURBAN HOUSE with a DELIVERY TRUCK parked outside.

THROUGH DELILAH'S WINDSHIELD: **DELIVERY MEN** are unloading BABY FURNITURE (CRIB, ROCKER, DRESSER) and carrying it up a walk to a PICTURE-PERFECT LITTLE HOME. Delilah parks. Gets out.

She walks up the sidewalk towards CINDY SHEA (30's, skinny), who's holding the door for the workmen. She sees Delilah.

CINDY Are you the nanny candidate?

DELILAH (after a blink-blink) No, I'm Delilah Connolly.

CINDY The one who's been calling Gary?

DELILAH

Yeah.

DELIVERY MEN carrying the CRIB squeeze past the two ladies.

DELILAH (CONT'D) Congratulations on the baby.

GARY (O.C.) -- who is it, Cind?

CINDY That lawyer who's been calling!

DELILAH I'm really not trying to cause any trouble, I just want to understand--

GARY SHEA (40's) steps into the doorway.

GARY I can't talk to you.

DELILAH

Mr. Shea, I just want to know what you thought was dangerous about the C-15.

GARY

I just said I can't talk about it!

DELILAH

Mr. Shea, if you think a flaw in something you designed could cause problems for soldiers in the field, you can't TAKE THE MONEY AND RUN --

CINDY -- he didn't TAKE THE MONEY, LADY!

GARY -- Cindy, I'll handle this, GO!

BEAT. Cindy, CRYING NOW, goes inside.

GARY (CONT'D) My wife's had three miscarriages.

The Delivery Men exit past Gary. He pulls the door shut.

GARY (CONT'D) We finally got pregnant with a surrogate, the baby's coming home tomorrow, my folks are here --

DELILAH -- I'm sorry, I just want --

GARY -- if you're sorry, go away --

DELILAH

-- but --

GARY -- if you're REALLY sorry, GO AWAY.

He goes back in and shuts the door. OFF DELILAH --

101.34 INT. DELILAH'S LEXUS - DAY (D2)

101.34

Delilah starts the car. The DELIVERY TRUCK pulls away, revealing A WHITE LAND ROVER parked up the street. <u>HUH</u>. Delilah drives past and sees a **MAN (50's, white)** at the wheel -- his cold eyes meet hers. She drives on, but keeps watching him in the rear-view mirror. <u>OFF DELILAH</u> -- <u>CHILLED</u> --

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

101.35 EXT. GLASS SKYSCRAPER - DAY (D2)

101.35

Establishing TAMARA'S OFFICE. VERY different from Delilah's.

101.36 INT. WIN LOCKLEY LLP - TAMARA'S 30TH FLOOR OFFICE - DAM 0(D2)6

Everything is MODERN and SPARE. Tamara is standing by the window, talking on the PHONE on a HEADSET.

TAMARA "With love, awe, and respect --" -- all caps on RESPECT --"Auntie Tam." (after a beat) How much do I want to spend? Huh. Enough to make sure every other kid playing tonight feels unloved. (after a beat) Thank you.

JANE ANN (50's, white), secretary to the Wins, peeks in.

JANE ANN Win Junior would like to see you in his office when you get a minute.

TAMARA

About what?

But Jane Ann is gone and doesn't answer.

TAMARA (CONT'D) Jane Ann...?!

OFF TAMARA --

101.37 INT. WIN LOCKLEY LLP - WIN LOCKLEY'S OFFICE - DAY (D2)101.37

WIN LOCKLEY, JR. (50's, Southern, patrician) is at his desk --

WIN

It's come to our attention that Osbourne Tactical is considering parting ways with Moody, Miller.

TAMARA Osbourne, the defense contractor?

WIN

Yeah. You're familiar with them?

TAMARA

Not really. But I just heard about them at lunch an hour or so ago.

WIN

I've told Fred Osbourne, the CEO, to expect a call from you, okay?

TAMARA

(thinking of Leah) Do we know why they're in play?

WIN

Fred just said they're about to
face some challenges Moody isn't
aggressive enough to defuse.
 (clocking Tamara's vibe)
You don't want the opportunity?

TAMARA

No, I do, I guess, sure, but --

WIN

Because whoever makes this go away makes partner in a way my father can't possibly question.

TAMARA

(after a few nods) I'll give Fred Osbourne a call.

WIN

Thanks.

Tamara exits and we go OFF WIN -- UNEASY ABOUT THIS

101.38 EXT. HARRIET JACOBS HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT (N2)

101.38

We can hear Maia and Flo playing the Massenet piece.

101.39 INT. HARRIET JACOBS HIGH SCHOOL - AUDITORIUM - NIGHT (N201.39

ONSTAGE: MAIA is wearing a LONG BLACK SHEATH DRESS, playing beautifully. Flo, similarly clothed, is at the piano.

The large auditorium has EIGHT SMALL GROUPS OF FAMILIES sitting on their own in scattered locations.

CLOSER, IN THE SEATS: Delilah has Dion in her lap. Marcus is beside her. Tamara is on the other side of Marcus, filming the performance with her CELL PHONE. They are all dressed nicely. Delilah looks to Marcus. ALL SPEAK SOTTO.

> DELILAH I think it sounds wonderful. (then, to Tamara) Her violin sounds fine, right?

TAMARA Sounds better than ever, why?

DELILAH I don't know what the problem is.

Delilah then sees: GORDON sliding past ANOTHER FAMILY to get to where they're sitting. He eventually sits next to Tamara. Tamara gives him a merely polite look. He looks across her to Marcus. He and Marcus trade looks. Delilah looks at Gordon.

> DELILAH (CONT'D) (to Gordon) You made it.

GORDON (as in, "I'm not a jerk") Yeah.

OFF MAIA -- PLAYING HER HEART OUT -- REALLY HAPPY --

101.40 INT. HARRIET JACOBS HIGH SCHOOL - AUDITORIUM - LATER (N2)1.40

ON THE FLOOR, NEAR THE STAGE: LOTS OF PARENTS are either waiting for their kids or celebrating with them.

IN ONE AREA BY THE STAIRS, Delilah, Tamara, and the boys wait. Delilah and Tamara watch GORDON, a few yards away, chatting up a **SINGLE MOM (40s, very pretty.)**

TAMARA Was she one of his conquests?

DELILAH Not that he told me about.

Gordon and the Mom do a yearning hand-squeeze and part.

TAMARA Sure looks like she was.

Gordon walks over and joins the ladies.

DELILAH How'd it go with the editor?

GORDON We met this afternoon instead.

DELILAH So why were you late?

GORDON I wasn't, I just had, uh --

MAIA (O.C.)

Dad!

Delilah turns to see MAIA running across the stage with TWO VIOLIN CASES, one dangling from each hand. She's ECSTATIC.

MAIA (CONT'D) You got it for me!!!

GORDON And you played the heck out of it!

IT HITS DELILAH WHAT GORDON DID. Maia races down the stairs --

TAMARA Careful in those heels, baby.

-- she runs to Gordon and hugs him. Delilah and Tamara trade eye-rolls, then Delilah looks at Gordon over Maia's shoulder.

DELILAH (mouthing quietly) ...ten thousand dollars?

GORDON I paid five today and the guy at the shop spoke to this woman, Miss Virginia, she said she's willing to wait for the other half -- don't worry, I'll take care of the rest.

Maia's HUGGING Gordon really hard. She's over the moon.

MAIA Thank you SO, SO, SO, SO MUCH! Tamara and Delilah trade looks. OFF DELILAH -- ENDURING IT --

101.41 EXT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - NIGHT (N2) 101.41

Establishing. Tamara's PORSCHE CAYENNE is parked outside.

101.42 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT (N2) 101.42 Delilah and Tamara drink WINE and commiserate raucously.

> DELILAH Can't send TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS --(after a drink) -- TWO HUNDRED! But he's got five grand to spend on a violin...?

TAMARA

He's never gonna change, Dee. The man has the heart of, I'm sorry, I've just gotta say it, the father of your children has the heart of a common CRIMINAL. Of a SOCIOPATH.

DELILAH THO HUNDRED DOLLARS A MONTH!

Tamara gets up, gets A FRESH WINE BOTTLE, unscrews the top, pours it, pulls a CHILLED VODKA BOTTLE out of the freezer --

TAMARA Where are you at with Leah Davis?

DELILAH

Why...?

-- pours herself a VODKA SODA and sits back down.

TAMARA

I'm meeting Fred Osbourne Monday.

DELILAH Is this a coincidence? Because somebody at Osbourne knew Leah had been to see me, so --

TAMARA

-- all I know, Dee, is there's a partnership on the table.

Delilah shifts in her seat.

DELILAH What's your point?

TAMARA

We've made it twenty years, Dee, without ever going up against each other in court. Let's not do it now, not over this. Let's find YOU a case that'll make you some REAL money. Enough so you could finally take that crazy walking trip in Italy you're always talking about. Leah Davis is just gonna drain your tank for nothing and you know it. (after a beat) Please. For me. For both of us. (after a beat) Let it go.

OFF DELILAH --

101.43 INT. DELILAH'S TOWNHOUSE - DELILAH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (N2)1.43

Delilah's UNEASILY composing AN E-MAIL TO LEAH on her LAPTOP. Trying to find the right words to quit. She starts typing.

IN THE EMAIL, ON THE SCREEN: Dear Leah, Unfortunately --

-- but she just can't do it. She stops. Thinks about it. Tries to muster the courage again to do it. Can't. <u>BEAT</u>.

ON THE SCREEN: she moves the cursor up to a WEB BROWSER and clicks on THE TAB OF AN OPEN WEB PAGE --

-- it's a page about WALKING TOURS OF ITALY. Pictures of hilltops with quintessentially Italian towers and buildings.

ON DELILAH: this is clearly a dream of hers. She clicks on a picture and enlarges it: A HILLTOP VILLAGE AND TOWER. She moves the cursor down to a CLICKABLE LINK --

-- REQUEST INFORMATION.

ON DELILAH: we see her resign herself to the fact that she's not going to take this trip this year or anytime soon.

ON THE SCREEN: the cursor moves back to that EMAIL TO LEAH.

ON DELILAH: as she starts typing -- and then her CELL rings. She looks down, sees the number, and hurriedly answers it.

DELILAH Mr. Shea. You called me back. GARY (O.S.) (on the phone) Yeah. I'm wondering if we can talk.

DELILAH

Go ahead.

There's something eerie about this call: a disembodied voice somewhere very close to the unnerved edge of insanity.

GARY (O.S.) (on the phone) Not now. Could you meet me Sunday, at five, in Romare Bearden Park?

DELILAH Because of that white Land Rover I saw parked outside your house...?

GARY (0.S.) (on the phone) Yeah.

DELILAH Yeah, I can make that work.

GARY (O.S.) (on the phone) I'm not a bad person, Ms. Connolly, I just have -- I've got a family.

DELILAH -- I understand. I'll see you then.

Delilah hangs up: <u>CHILLED</u>. She looks at the E-MAIL she was composing -- and DELETES IT. CLOSES THE LAPTOP. OFF DELILAH --

101.44 OMITTED

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

101.45 EXT. V.A. REHAB CENTER – PARKING LOT – DAY (D3) 101.45

Delilah is pulling DION'S ROLLERBAG. Dion walks beside her wearing his PATROL CAP, and carrying TWO PICTURES, ROLLED, TIED WITH RIBBONS, heading for the doors.

> DION Mama's gonna like this picture.

DELILAH I'm jealous I didn't get one.

DION I'll make one for you, too.

DELILAH Well, okay then.

Delilah's CELL rings. She stops, pulls Dion close, answers.

DELILAH (CONT'D) Mace. Thanks for calling me back.

Intercut as necessary with:

101.46 EXT. STREET - DAY (D3)

101.46

Mace has been running. He's out of breath. CELL TO EAR.

MACE Yeah, what do you need, Chief?

DELILAH Are you okay?

MACE Yeah, I'm out for a run. Remembered I had to call. What's up...?

DELILAH I've got Dion here with me, he's going home with his Mom today --

MACE Ooh, you're gonna miss him -- DELILAH (for Dion's benefit) -- I AM gonna miss him, but I'm gonna visit him all the time, I'm just saying...

(MORE)

DELILAH (CONT'D) ...I'm gonna be kinda CIRCUMSPECT.

MACE

Understood, hit me.

DELILAH

I went to visit Gary Shea a few days ago at the address I texted you last night. There was a Land Rover parked near the house when I went there, and there was a guy in it -- an INTERESTED-LOOKING guy. Would you be willing to go see if he's still there? Because Mr. Shea says he's kinda ALWAYS there.

MACE

I'll head over there once I'm up and around and if I see him, I'll run the plate and get back to you.

DELILAH

Mace.

MACE

Yeah.

DELILAH It's eleven-thirty.

She hangs up. They head for the front doors again.

DION

Are you really gonna visit all the time once I'm back home? Really...?

DELILAH Dion, what's the thing about me?

DION

You always tell the truth and you do what you say you're gonna do.

DELILAH

So am I gonna visit all the time?

DION

Yeah.

DELILAH Don't waste my time with those questions you already know the answers to. This isn't court.

They enter the building.

101.47 OMITTED

101.47

101.48 INT. V.A. REHAB CENTER - HALLWAY - DAY (D3) 101.48

Delilah walks Dion (and his ROLLERBAG) past **INJURED VETS** in a variety of states: some missing arms: many depressed. Delilah gives an apologetic smile to the ones who try to engage with Dion, who can't help but recoil. She stops when she hears --

NATE

Dion!

REVEAL, IN A SIDE HALL: NATE, rolling out of his room in his WHEELCHAIR towards them. Dion clings closer to Delilah.

NATE (CONT'D) My man! Get over here!

Nate opens his arms. <u>BEAT</u>. Delilah taps Dion on the shoulder. He runs to Nate. Nate strains to lift him onto his chair and then hugs him. He looks over Dion's shoulder to Delilah.

DION

Is Mama here?

NATE (with some oddness) No, she's not here quite yet.

Nate gives Delilah a LOOK, like, "Things are a little weird around here right now," and then whispers into Dion's ear.

NATE (CONT'D) Let's go put that train together.

Dion runs off. Nate says --

NATE (CONT'D) Just gimme a second. -- and goes. OFF DELILAH: WONDERING WHAT NATE'S LOOK MEANT --

101.49 INT. V.A. REHAB CENTER - COMMON AREA - DAY (D3) 101.49

It's a large corner area filled with TOYS and GAMES. Dion plays with a WOODEN TRAIN SET. Nate is looking at A PICTURE OF THE C-15 RADIO on Delilah's CELL.

DELILAH Did you ever use a radio like that?

NATE Everybody did. But I don't remember ever hearing about anything wrong.

DELILAH Okay. Thanks, anyway.

He hands the CELL back. She puts it back into her purse.

DELILAH (CONT'D) ...so why's Christine so late?

NATE

She's not late. She's not coming. (off Delilah's look) She says she needs more time.

DELILAH

To do what? First it was a week she needed, after you shipped out. Then it was two. It's been SIX MONTHS --

NATE

-- I know --

DELILAH I'm calling her.

NATE Don't, Dee --

DELILAH -- why not?

NATE

(MORE)

NATE (CONT'D)

She begged me not to sign up for that second tour. And then I came back like this...? This is not what she signed up for.

DELILAH

Life is never what anyone "signed up for," you know why? There is no sign-up sheet. It's life. You man up or woman up and deal with it. (really fed up)

So when is she saying she'll take him now? When is she thinking she WILL be ready to be his mother?

NATE

She doesn't know.

DELILAH

And you're gonna be discharged in how long, eight weeks...?

NATE

Seven.

Delilah's CELL rings. She looks. It's MACE. She rises --

DELILAH Well, she better know soon.

-- and steps outside to take the call. OFF NATE --

101.50 EXT. V.A. REHAB CENTER - DAY (D3)

101.50

Delilah's outside the BIG WINDOW with her CELL to her ear.

DELILAH ...hey, Mace, what's going on...?

MACE (0.S.) So I'm out here in Ballantyne.

DELILAH

Yeah...?

Delilah turns and looks through the window at: NATE leaning down from his chair as Dion shows him one of the train cars.

DELILAH (CONT'D) No Land Rover...?

Intercut as necessary with:

101.51 EXT. GARY SHEA'S HOUSE - DAY (D3) 101.51

Mace sits in his CLASSIC CAR, discreetly watching the house.

MACE Nope. But there IS an ambulance.

-- CAMERA MOVES TO REVEAL: SEVERAL POLICE CARS, AN AMBULANCE, arrayed chaotically on the drive and lawn. CINDY is out front with the BABY in her arms, SOBBING to **TWO POLICE DETECTIVES**.

DELILAH Why...? What happened...?

MACE Gary Shea's dead.

OFF DELILAH -- AS A CHASM OF MYSTERY OPENS BEFORE HER --

END OF EPISODE 101