

MOSS PARK

by

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TINA AND BOBBY IN A SMALL INNER CITY PARK

THEY ARE BOTH TWENTY

A CITY PARK

Tina and Bobby walk on.

BOBBY

Only thing he says is, "You have to answer yes to all these questions or you don't get the job. Do you have a licence? Do you have a safe driving record? Can you drive a standard shift? Can you sew?"

TINA

Can you what?

BOBBY

Sew. Because when I'm not delivering the carpets I'm supposed to be sewing binding around all these leftover pieces to make little mats. So yeah, I tell him I can sew.

TINA

You lie.

BOBBY

Right. Because what's one more lie?

TINA

You lied about something else?

BOBBY

Yeah. About the standard shift. Man, I was sure that was going to be the deal breaker.

TINA

Oh. But not the sewing.

BOBBY

Before I even got to the sewing, it was the stick shift I had to worry about. I mean how was I gonna fake that, right? I'm pretty good at faking things but--

TINA

What? No you're not.

BOBBY

I faked my way all the way through high school, Tina.

TINA

Is that what you think?

BOBBY

It's the truth.

TINA

No it's bullshit. You think you tricked those teachers or something? Most of them passed you outta pity.

BOBBY

Pity? Whatya talking about?

TINA

They felt sorry for you, Bobby.

BOBBY

Why?

TINA

For the same reason a lot of people do.

BOBBY

Yeah, and what's that?

TINA

I don't know. I'm still trying to figure that out. Anyway it was pity and nothing else that got you through school.

BOBBY

That's your opinion.

TINA

That's everyone's opinion.

BOBBY

Everyone's? Come on. Okay. My dad's for sure but he's just--

TINA

What happened?

BOBBY

When?

TINA

When you tried to drive the store's car.

BOBBY

It wasn't a car. You can't deliver carpets in a freakin' car. It was a shitty old VW van, which I taught myself how to drive in an hour in the parking lot.

TINA

Really?

BOBBY

Well good enough to get the thing moving and start my deliveries. And I had like twelve of them, right. So that's twelve times carrying these monster freakin' carpets up three, four sometimes five flights of stairs because none of the buildings around here have elevators for some reason.

TINA

Well most of them are public housing. And they didn't put fancy things like elevators in them.

BOBBY

Right. So what are people in public housing doing buying carpets anyway?

TINA

Why shouldn't they have carpets?

BOBBY

I'm not saying they shouldn't have them. I'm saying why do they *need* them.

TINA

That store's merchandise is cheap shit. They shouldn't even have cheap shitty carpets on their floors? Is that what you're saying? Only people who live in buildings with elevators should have carpets, so you wouldn't have to carry them up the stairs ... I'm probably going to wind up in public housing.

BOBBY

No fucking way.

TINA

Yeah. Probably. And if I do, I might like a carpet for our child to play on instead of that stupid parquet crap. But forget about me. You just keep complaining.

BOBBY

I wasn't complaining. I was just telling you something.

TINA
It sounded like you were
complaining.

BOBBY
Well I wasn't. Not that I couldn't
after what happened.

TINA
Which was what?

BOBBY
I threw out my back.

TINA
Really?

BOBBY
Yeah and I was in a lot of pain
from it too.

TINA
Really. And this is from carrying
carpets...

BOBBY
Yeah. And carrying them up five
flights of stairs. So it was bad.

TINA
How bad? I mean could you walk?

BOBBY
I could walk. But it hurt. So, you
know, I thought I'd better lie down
for awhile, right.

TINA
Yeah. Lie down where?

BOBBY
In the van. You know, in the back.
So I did that. And I guess I fell
asleep.

TINA
You guess?

BOBBY
Not really.

TINA
So you did fall asleep. In the
middle of the day, while you were
supposed to be working...you had a
nap.

BOBBY

Yeah. But just because of my back.

TINA

Right. And when you woke up?

BOBBY

It was kinda late.

TINA

Whatya mean by kinda late?

BOBBY

Kinda... dark.

TINA

Dark. You mean like it gets at night.

BOBBY

Yeah. And... when I got back to the store the boss was just about to close up. And guess what he tells me? He tells me he called the cops because he thought I'd stolen the van.

TINA

Great.

BOBBY

But there I was. So I hadn't actually done that. So that was good. I mean that's what I thought. But he fired me anyway.

TINA

For coming back so late...

BOBBY

No because of the transmission.

TINA

There was something wrong with the transmission?

BOBBY

Oh yeah. It was totally fucked. You know, because of my lack of experience in driving with a clutch. Plus a few other things were troubling him.

TINA

What things?

BOBBY

Things about the carpets. Some of them...weren't where they were supposed to be.

TINA

You mean you messed up the deliveries.

BOBBY

Some of them. Hey it was my first day.

TINA

Yeah but one day is all you usually last on a job anyway so--

BOBBY

So what's the big deal you mean?

TINA

No. Well, yeah.

BOBBY

Okay first off, that's not true.

TINA

Your last four jobs... one day, a day and a half, two days, half a day...

BOBBY

Half a day?

TINA

You didn't last past lunchtime delivering those flyers.

BOBBY

There was no lunch time. And that's just one of the ways that job was totally humiliating. Anyway, this carpet store thing was a different situation.

TINA

But with pretty much the same result.

BOBBY

Okay look... here's what I think is happening.

TINA

Or not happening.

BOBBY

It's really all about me finding something I'm, you know, *supposed* to be doing.

TINA

What's that mean? Supposed to be?

BOBBY

It means I should only be looking for work I'm suited to.

TINA

Okay but what if you're not suited to anything.

BOBBY

Come on. There's gotta be something. I mean I'm not slow. Slow people, okay...it's possible they're not really good at anything but--

TINA

But they try.

BOBBY

I try.

TINA

Maybe they try harder. Maybe they're not all tied up in looking for something they're "suited to." Someone gives them a task and they try to do it.

BOBBY

Okay sure. If you're gonna put it that way. I mean a task, that's just--

TINA

You want a task? Get a job. And try to keep it.

BOBBY

Okay. But that might take some time because--

TINA

Because why? Because you are fucking slow!?

BOBBY

Hey. What's wrong with you? How come you're being so mean about this? You used to be--

TINA

I have a kid. I don't have as much time as I used to. You know, to listen to you complain.

BOBBY

I'm not complaining. I'm... explaining. Hey did you hear that? I rhymed. I've been doing that a lot lately, by the way. I mean it's usually accidental, but if it comes naturally like that--

TINA

What are you talking about?

BOBBY

Maybe I could rap. Rappers can make a fuck of a lot of money.

TINA

Jesus Christ.

BOBBY

I'm just saying it's a possibility.

TINA

Come on. You really think there's a possibility you could be a successful rapper.

BOBBY

No. I guess I don't.

TINA

So it's something that just popped into your head. Do you think you could cut that out for awhile. You know, letting yourself get sidetracked by things that just--

BOBBY

It seemed like a possibility for a moment. But when you asked me if it really was, then it wasn't. Thanks.

TINA

Do you have any money?

BOBBY

On me?

TINA

On you, in the bank, under your mattress, wherever.

BOBBY

There's a cheque. The carpet store owner owes me for a day's work. But it needs to be picked up.

TINA

Okay so could you do that? I need to buy some things for Holly.

BOBBY

Things like what?

TINA

Do you really need to know? Can't you just get the cheque like I asked?

BOBBY

No.

TINA

Why not, Bobby?

BOBBY

Well it's just that I'm a little scared of the guy. I think he came pretty close to hitting me when he found out about the van's transmission.

TINA

So you'll just have to suck it up, won't you. I need money. Holly needs new shoes.

BOBBY

Already? What's wrong with the ones we just bought her?

TINA

You mean three months ago?

BOBBY

She needs a new pair after just three--

TINA

They don't fit.

BOBBY

Are you sure?

TINA

She says they hurt her. Maybe she's lying. Maybe you should just come over and shake the truth out of her. Find out what the hell the little bitch is trying to pull.

BOBBY
Come on Tina, I was just--

TINA
They don't fit! Okay!?

BOBBY
Sure. Yeah... And your government allowance didn't come?

TINA
It came and went. You have to go get that cheque.

BOBBY
It's not much.

TINA
It's better than nothing.

BOBBY
He might want to hold on to it to cover things.

TINA
What thing?

BOBBY
You know, the transmission...

TINA
He can't do that.

BOBBY
Why not?

TINA
It's against the law.

BOBBY
Are you sure?

TINA
No. But it's what you could tell him.

BOBBY
Could *you*?

TINA
I'm sorry?

BOBBY

You could take Holly. I mean even if he doesn't care what the law is, if you're standing there with a toddler looking really sad or maybe even crying... that's gotta make him wanna hand it over.

TINA

You want me to cry. Are you sure you don't want me to beg too? Hey maybe, I could dress Holly in rags and wipe shit on her face.

BOBBY

Come on. It was just a sugges--

TINA

You have to start getting it together, Bobby! You really do!!

BOBBY

Like you think I don't know that. There's nothing I want more in the freakin' world then to get it together!

TINA

Yeah?

BOBBY

Yeah!

TINA

Why?

BOBBY

(touches her hair)
You know, so you'll let me be with you and Holly. Because the two of you are the most important things in my life.

He kisses her. They hug. Then suddenly she pushes him away.

TINA

No.

BOBBY

No what?

TINA

This isn't that movie.

BOBBY

What?

TINA

It's not that movie or that tv show or whatever it is you've got in your head. It's our life. And it's still fucked up, and some kiss isn't going to.... Look whatever you have to do, just do it for yourself, okay. Don't go thinking about me and you and Holly in that way. I mean all together.

BOBBY

Why not?

TINA

Because it might not happen.

BOBBY

It has to happen. That's the way it's supposed to be.

TINA

In your movie...

BOBBY

No for real. It's gotta happen for real

TINA

No. It's too hard. *Trying* to make it happen is just too hard. And scary and sad.

BOBBY

Why?

TINA

Because I can't rely on you.

BOBBY

Not right now you can't. But this is just a phase I'm going through.

TINA

No it's not. Unless you've been in this "phase" since you were nine.

BOBBY

That wasn't a phase. That was just me. You know, and my problems with...

TINA

Concentrating.

BOBBY

Yeah or...

TINA
Making decisions.

BOBBY
Yeah all that stuff. That's just me. This an actual phase where I can't hold on to a job and earn money on a regular basis. I've earned money in the past though, right. I had a job I didn't get fired from. It's not my fault that factory closed. I was really thrown by that. I thought I had a job for life. Okay it wasn't anything I really wanted to do, but I was willing to hang in there basically forever. So I got thrown. And it's like I've got... you know, post traumatic stress.

TINA
(to herself)
Post traumatic stress...

A vehicle with a siren blaring passes. Bobby watches it until it is out of sight. Tina watches Bobby then just puts her head down.

BOBBY
(turning back to her)
Why you doing that, T? ... Tina?
Why do you have your head between your legs like that? You crying?

TINA
No...

BOBBY
You are, aren't you. You're crying.

TINA
I'm not crying, Bobby.
(lifting her head)
I was just thinking.

BOBBY
Thinking about what?

TINA
Us. What else?

BOBBY
What about us.

TINA
Everything about us.

BOBBY
Does everything include if you
still love me?

TINA
Jesus.

BOBBY
No I gotta know...
(sits next to her)
Because I still love you. I love
you a lot.

She is just looking at him.

TINA
So what?

BOBBY
Whatya mean so what?

TINA
I mean I've got problems right now
way bigger than who loves who. Or
who doesn't. My mom and I are
getting evicted.

BOBBY
No way.

TINA
(looks at him)
Why "no way." Why is that always
the first thing outta your mouth
when you hear something bad or
something you don't expect? Because
it just makes it sound like you
don't believe it. And then a person
has to say it all over again so
that maybe you will. We're five
months behind in the rent, and
we're getting thrown out.

BOBBY
No way.

TINA
Oh my God.

BOBBY
I mean...what are you gonna do?

TINA
I don't know.

BOBBY
Is there something I can do to
help?

TINA

Don't ask *me*.

BOBBY

Well who else *should* I ask?

TINA

Ask yourself for chrissake.

BOBBY

I was planning to ask myself after I asked you. Because you usually have a better--

TINA

You wanna help? Get a job and keep it for more than a day. Start paying child support on a regular basis.

BOBBY

Hey I'd be doing that right now if I wasn't still in shock about being laid off.

TINA

That was over a year ago, Bobby. Maybe you should just shake yourself out of it.

BOBBY

Everybody says that but nobody tells me how.

TINA

Well maybe nobody actually knows.

BOBBY

Doesn't your mom have a plan?

TINA

A plan for what?

BOBBY

For where you're gonna live. I mean you gotta live somewhere.

TINA

She checking out some parks.

BOBBY

Really?

TINA

It was a joke.

BOBBY

Yeah? Well it wasn't funny.

TINA
Tell me about it.

BOBBY
What's that mean?

TINA
Well I guess it means I think it
could come to that.

BOBBY
Is that a joke too? Because I'm
starting to freak out here.

TINA
Good. Maybe it'll help you come up
with some way to help.

BOBBY
You mean it's all on me? Jesus.
Come on...

TINA
Relax. My mom says we can go live
with her cousin for awhile.

BOBBY
Yeah? So that's--

TINA
It's her cousin with the mental
problems.

BOBBY
The one who burned her house down?

TINA
Yeah. So she'd need to be watched
basically all the time. I'd rather
go to a shelter.

BOBBY
There are people in shelters with
mental problems too.

TINA
Yeah but it wouldn't be my job to
watch them.

BOBBY
It's still not a good idea.

TINA
So come up with a better one.

BOBBY
Well I could ask my dad if you
could come live with us.

TINA

Your dad's probably gonna burn *your* house down one day.

BOBBY

No he's not drinking nearly as much. He's met a woman.

TINA

Really? Jesus. And your mom's not even been dead a year.

BOBBY

He said he needed a female in the house.

TINA

Another slave, you mean.

BOBBY

I guess. Her name's Winnie. She's pretty interesting.

TINA

Yeah? In what way?

A siren goes by. Bobby is distracted by it.

TINA (CONT'D)

Bobby?

BOBBY

What?

TINA

How is this Winnie person "pretty interesting?"

BOBBY

Oh. Well she used to be a biker chick. So she's got a ton of stories about that.

TINA

Any we'd want our two year old daughter to listen to?

BOBBY

Maybe not.

TINA

Not even the ones about all the times she got gang-banged?

BOBBY

That's funny.
(off her look)
Not really though.
(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

There's nothing funny about getting gang-banged. Not even if she was up for it. It's just that you saying it like that was kinda--

(off her look)

No. Not even *that* was funny. Not really. Look I'm just saying she's kinda had a good effect on my dad.

TINA

Really. You mean he's not an asshole anymore?

BOBBY

No he's still kind of an asshole. But he doesn't hit the booze as much because Winnie's mostly into weed.

TINA

So now he's just a stoner... Jesus. You want us to go live with a couple of doped out--

BOBBY

It'd only be until-

TINA

Until when?! You find us a nice place under a bridge or something?!

She has lowered her head into her lap again

BOBBY

Tina? You okay? Looks like you're really crying this time. T?

TINA

(lifts her head, wipes away some tears)

I'm pregnant.

Bobby is just looking at her.

TINA (CONT'D)

Don't ask me if I'm sure. Because I am. And don't ask me if it's yours because I'll fucking kill you if you do. Okay?

BOBBY

Okay. But can I ask you when. Because I can only remember that one time.

TINA

It only takes once.

BOBBY

Sure okay, but what were the odds.

TINA

Well they were obviously pretty fucking good, weren't they.

BOBBY

Yeah. Wow.

TINA

Yeah "wow."

BOBBY

Yeah so--

TINA

So I have to figure out what to do.

BOBBY

Yeah. Whatya mean?

TINA

Well do you think someone in my situation should be bringing another baby into the world?

(off his stare)

Answer me.

BOBBY

No.

TINA

No I shouldn't be doing that?

BOBBY

No I don't want to answer you. I mean I don't really know what my position is, right. I mean what do I get to say? What *don't* I get to say?!

(hits himself on the head)

Oh God, this is...

(moving away)

This is totally...

(sitting on the ground)

I mean what the...

(suddenly standing)

Why the fuck didn't you make me use protection!

TINA

That was up to me, was it?

BOBBY

I was drunk!

TINA

So was I!

BOBBY

You were?

TINA

Totally. Do you think I woulda had sex with you if I wasn't. I was usually too mad at you to even be in the same room.

BOBBY

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Right. But why weren't you on the pill?!

TINA

Because I wasn't having sex.

BOBBY

You mean with me.

TINA

With anyone!

BOBBY

Why would you be having sex with anyone?!

TINA

I wasn't. But if I was it woulda been because we weren't together! And I would have been on the pill.

BOBBY

Okay. That makes sense.

TINA

Great. That mean I'm off the hook? You won't be blaming me for this?

BOBBY

What's the point? It's a done thing.

TINA

Yeah. It is. So we better find a way to undo it. I mean if I'm gonna get an abortion then I have to--

Bobby gasps for air, staggers a bit.

TINA (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

BOBBY

I can't...

(grabs his chest)

I can't... It's...oh Jesus...

TINA

(moving towards him)

Okay just--

BOBBY

I can't...

TINA

Just breathe.

BOBBY

Okay but--

TINA

Sit down. Don't panic.

BOBBY

Okay...

(sitting)

Okay I'll just...

TINA

I thought you had your asthma under control.

BOBBY

No this isn't...

(trying to breathe normally)

It's what you said.

TINA

About getting an abortion?

BOBBY

Yeah I guess I just wasn't ready for it.

TINA

You mean not ready to talk about it.

BOBBY

Talk about it, or even hear the word.

TINA

Got it. Yeah. Well if it's too much for you, I can just leave you out of it. I've left you out of just about everything else because you "weren't ready." You weren't ready to do your fair share with Holly.

(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

Or talk seriously about if we had any future together. You were never ready for any of that. So I just stopped asking you about anything that most people like us need to come to terms with. You've been excused from all that, Bobby. So this will just be something else that I won't bother you with.

She starts off

BOBBY

Where you going?

TINA

(stops)

What's it to you?

BOBBY

Well we were discussing a pretty serious thing here and all of a sudden you just start to leave. What is it, you need to pick up Holly from somewhere?

TINA

Not from "somewhere," Bobby. She's with Jill.

BOBBY

Well that's pretty upsetting.

TINA

Why?

BOBBY

Because Jill hates me, Tina. She probably fills Holly's head with a lot of ugly lies about me.

TINA

She doesn't say anything bad about you.

BOBBY

Yeah? And you know this because...?

TINA

I asked her not to. My mom too. No one ever says a bad word about you to Holly.

BOBBY

Yeah I guess you think it's better if she finds out for herself what a screw up I am.

TINA

Right. I figure it's just a matter of time until you try to borrow money from her.

(off his look)

I was just kidding.

BOBBY

It wasn't funny.

TINA

Hey, it was lot funnier than that gang-banging thing! And if you don't like hearing cracks like that then--

BOBBY

Then I should just get my shit together. I know that.

TINA

Do you?

BOBBY

You mean do I really know. Or am I just saying I know. I don't know.

TINA

Right. Listen maybe you should just get on with things in your own way. I mean your life. Just keep doing what you're doing, and let it be what it is. Maybe I'm wrong to be asking anything from you. Look I guess I still love you, Bobby but--

BOBBY

You guess? Whatya mean you guess?

TINA

Okay I don't guess. I know. I know I love you. But what's the point. It's just too hard to be in this situation and never know if it's always going to be like this.

BOBBY

You can't always be pregnant Tina.

TINA

I meant alone. Pregnant, not pregnant. But still alone.

BOBBY

You need to get Holly at a certain time? Because I think you should stay as long as it takes to talk about this.

TINA

This what?

BOBBY

Whatya mean, this what?

TINA

I mean are we going to talk about the actual thing or just about how hard it is for you to *deal* with the actual thing?

BOBBY

Both probably. I mean they're kinda related.

TINA

Except one's way more important. So can you keep quiet about how hard this is for you, and just talk about what's the right thing for us to do? I don't want to kill this baby. But I will if we don't come up with a way to make sure having it won't put me and Holly in a really dark hole, where we have no money and no place to live and no way to make any of that even a little bit better.

BOBBY

Okay. Just one thing though. Can you not say "kill."

TINA

We have to say it. Because that's what it is.

BOBBY

Okay but to a lot of people it's not really a baby yet.

TINA

I'm not a lot of people. I'm me. And I think we'd be killing our baby.

BOBBY

Which really means you don't want to do it!

TINA

No it means if we do it, we'd have to admit that's what we're doing and have a lot of reasons for doing it.

BOBBY

Well the main reason would be that we're scared, right. But scared of what? I mean exactly.

TINA

Exactly everything. Between the two of us, we're afraid of just about everything there is. But mostly you're afraid of growing up. And I'm afraid of the future.

BOBBY

Wow. The future. You think about the future?

TINA

Don't you?

BOBBY

Well yeah, but just like up to tonight or something.

TINA

Come on, that can't be true. You're telling me you only think about what might happen a few hours from now? Jesus.

BOBBY

Unless it's Friday. Then I'm wondering how the weekend might go. Like if me and Willie were gonna go somewhere. And you know, do something.

TINA

Yeah? So now that Willie's in prison, you still wonder about that?

BOBBY

No. Why would I?

TINA

Right. Now it'd be just about doing "something" all by yourself. You ever wonder about coming to visit your daughter?

BOBBY

Sure I do. Except when I do that I always see the two of us fighting. So there goes that idea.

TINA

Right outta your head, you mean ...
Speaking of Willie, wasn't it kinda
surprising that a guy you've known
since kindergarten turns out to be
a big-time break and enter artist?

BOBBY

He wasn't really big time. He was
just into easy pickings. Houses
that didn't have an alarm or--

TINA

So you knew?

BOBBY

Well he was always flush. So I
figured something was up.

TINA

No. You knew. He would have told
you.

BOBBY

So what if he did.

TINA

He was stealing from your
neighbours, Bobby.

BOBBY

Only those who could afford it.

TINA

No one around here can afford it.

BOBBY

Come on, the people who own those
fancy renos are gonna miss some of
the shit they have?

TINA

They might. Who are you to say they
won't?

BOBBY

Okay. Can I say I don't really care
if they do?

TINA

Yeah but it makes you sound small.
Don't be all worked up about what
other people have, just concentrate
on getting what you need yourself.

BOBBY

Yeah. God that's depressing, man. When you say stuff like that it makes it sound like you've already figured out all the things I'm just getting to. And it fucks me up. It makes me feel like I'll never catch up to you.

TINA

Maybe you won't. You had a pretty big disadvantage right from the start.

BOBBY

You mean my dad.

TINA

Yeah. Because probably every time he opened his mouth around you, it set you back a year or two.

BOBBY

At least.

TINA

So did you ever help him?

BOBBY

Who, my dad?

TINA

No. Willie. Did you ever help him do those break-ins?

BOBBY

No way.

TINA

Look at me, Bobby ... Bobby!

BOBBY

Okay. I was a lookout.

TINA

What?

BOBBY

But just once because I was sure I was gonna get caught.

TINA

With your luck. Absolutely you'd have been caught.

BOBBY

Yeah. Absolutely. Plus I kept thinking how my mom would feel about it, and I got kinda ashamed.

TINA

Really?

BOBBY

Yeah.

TINA

Well that's something at least... You know, Bobby, I was really hoping if I told you what was going on with me... you know, about being evicted and being pregnant... that maybe you could help me work it out, come up with a plan. But right away you started in with all those excuses about why that new job didn't work out and we're back to square one. And now I have to go back to thinking about all that scary shit on my own.

BOBBY

The scary shit in the future.

TINA

Sometimes I think it'll be okay. I'll make it work. I think about going back to school. But this time learning some kind of trade. Maybe becoming a electrician.

BOBBY

An electrician?

TINA

Or a cook.

BOBBY

A cook, okay. But an electrician is someone who has to know a lot of--

TINA

I'm good with stuff like that, Bobby. I could do it. You saying I couldn't?

BOBBY

No. I guess I was saying I couldn't.

TINA

Yeah. Why do you think that is?
(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

Why do you think you can't do most of the stuff that people like us, people with a kid, might have to do?

BOBBY

Well maybe--

TINA

No I got this. You just don't see yourself in the real world. You can see yourself as a big time rap star, but you can't see any *real* possibilities for yourself. Things like just getting up each day and going to work at the same place and never fucking up and never getting fired because you fucked up. That's probably why you're scared of looking into the future. You know it's probably filled with things you can't handle.

BOBBY

You think?

TINA

Yeah. You gotta see yourself beating all that back, Bobby. You gotta be okay with whatever you *have* to do.

BOBBY

Can you do that?

TINA

Well I try. But then shit happens that makes me afraid its gonna be way worse than I ever thought. So that makes it hard, right.

BOBBY

Oh yeah. It's gotta.

TINA

Plus I keep seeing this one thing. This one thing keeps happening in my head over and over again... I'm sick, right. Really sick. And I'm in bed with this new baby, and Holly needs me to get up and take her to school. But I can't. I can't fucking get up to even feed her. I can only lie there and be sick. And there's no one to help. Not my mom. Not Jill. No one.

BOBBY

Not even me?

TINA

Definitely not you. When I see things like this happening, you're never there, Bobby.

BOBBY

Well maybe you should try to put me there! ... Yeah! Put me there in your head and see me helping. Then later tell me how I did it, so I could *really* help and really be there. I mean not just in your head but--

TINA

You'd have to start by being there now. And that means--

BOBBY

No *I* got this. It means I've got to have a steady job. And I can't be scared of the future. And I can't be scared of being a bad father. And I can't be scared of--

TINA

Life. Grown-up life, Bobby. That's really what you have to stop being scared of.

BOBBY

Yeah. Okay. But grown-up life with not much money.

TINA

Try *no* money

BOBBY

And not a lot of family help.

TINA

No family help.

BOBBY

Right. Yeah. So it's just us. Okay then. Yeah let's go for it. Let's just not be scared. Because things are getting pretty serious now, aren't they. I mean one kid is something but two, that's a whole other fucking--

TINA

I don't want to kill this baby. But I will. If we can't get ourselves in a better situation--

BOBBY

Yeah sure, but that might take some time. So you should definitely wait before you do that. Because think about how sad you'd be...if you do. I mean being that sad might be way too much for you.

TINA

What'd be too much is not being able to take care of my children.

BOBBY

Well yeah but--

TINA

There's no argument for that, Bobby. I'm gonna stop being pregnant unless I'm sure both my kids are gonna be okay.

A cell phone goes off. Tina takes it out of her pocket.

BOBBY

Where'd you get that?

TINA

Jill got it for me. She didn't like the idea of me ever being out of touch.

BOBBY

That her?

TINA

Yeah. I'll call her back.

She puts it away.

BOBBY

So she's got enough money to get her friends hooked up with cell phones.

TINA

Just her pregnant ones. She had this really good summer job and she made a lot of money so--

BOBBY
(gestures to her stomach)
So she knows.

TINA
Yeah...

BOBBY
And she knew before I did.

TINA
I needed to talk to someone about
it. And my mom's not in great,
shape so I didn't wanna worry her.

BOBBY
What about me?

TINA
Well I also needed to talk to
someone about *you*, Bobby.

BOBBY
Like what about me?

TINA
Like whether I should even tell
you.

BOBBY
Why the fuck wouldn't you tell me?

TINA
Because I was confused about you
knowing. What good would it do,
right? Anyway, Jill said I should.

BOBBY
She did?

TINA
Yeah. But she warned me not to get
my hopes up.

BOBBY
Yeah. Right. I can almost hear her
saying it too. And I can see that
look on her face she gets when she
talks to me. Jesus. What is that
look anyway.

TINA
Disgust. A mixture of disgust and
pity.

BOBBY
Well tell her I don't want her
freakin' pity.

TINA

I think the pity's for me.

Another cell phone, same ring.

TINA (CONT'D)

She's probably just wondering
where--

BOBBY

(reaching into his pocket)
No that's me.

TINA

(off the cell phone in his
hand)
How can you afford that, Bobby?

BOBBY

It's Willie's. He left it with me,
so he'd have a connection to the
outside.

Tina's cell goes off again. They look at each other. Bobby shrugs hopefully. Tina just sighs and answers hers. Bobby then answers his.

TINA

(into phone)
Hi ... No I'm fine.

BOBBY

(into phone)
Hey, man. How's it going?

TINA

No really...

BOBBY

No shit. What just now? ... No way!
(to Tina)
Guess who Willie just ran into in
the slammer.

TINA

(into phone)
Just a sec.

BOBBY

My uncle Ray. You know, my dad's
brother. The one we all thought was
dead.

(into phone)
How's he look?

TINA
 (into phone)
 He just wanted to share some family
 news with me ... It's not worth
 explaining.

TINA (CONT'D)
 ... Yeah we've kinda been
 talking about it-- well he
 has the information so--

BOBBY
 (into phone)
 That's freakin' funny, man. A
 Mohawk.

BOBBY
 What the fuck. He thinks he's still
 a kid or something?

TINA
 (into phone)
 Okay. Sure...
 (holds phone out)
 She wants to talk to you.

BOBBY
 (into phone)
 Hold on a sec.
 (to Tina)
 What?

TINA
 Jill wants to talk to you.

BOBBY
 What about?

TINA
 I don't know. But she says it's
 important.

BOBBY
 Well ah...
 (gestures to phone)
 What do I do with...?

TINA
 I'll talk to him.

BOBBY
 Really?

TINA
 Sure. I can probably listen to his
 bullshit for a couple of minutes.

BOBBY
 Yeah but...
 (as they exchange phones)
 ...just try to be nice, okay. The
 guy's never been in prison before.

TINA
Yeah. Go figure.

They look at each other. Then put the phones to their ears.

BOBBY
(into phone)
Hey, Jill. What's up?

TINA
(into phone)
Hi, Willie. What's new?

BOBBY
(into phone)
Yeah. I'm listening.

TINA
(into phone)
Yeah I know you're in prison. It was a joke ... Well it was funny to me.

BOBBY
(into phone)
Why are you talking slow like that?

TINA
(into phone)
Hey, knock it off with the complaining, okay. You're a thief, Willie. Where the hell did you think you were going to wind up?
(disconnects)
Asshole.

BOBBY
(to Tina)
Why did you do that?

TINA
He started to cry. Like he thought it'd make me feel sorry for him or something.

BOBBY
Jesus. He was crying?

Tina just gestures to the phone in his hand.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
(into phone)
Look you're gonna have to say that all again. I got distracted ... No not by a siren!

Tina laughs.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
(into phone)
Yeah. I'm freakin' listening. Just
say it!... Okay ... I said okay!

He disconnects. They exchange phones.

TINA
What was that about?

BOBBY
Oh she just wanted to tell me what
she always tells me. If I don't do
right by you, she's gonna track me
down and kick me to death.

Tina laughs.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
Oh that's funny, right. You know
how many times she's threatened to
do that? Not just kill me any old
way. It's always gotta be by
kicking me to death. I think
there's something really fucking
wrong with her.

TINA
She thinks the same thing about
you.

BOBBY
Did I ever threaten to kick her to
death?

TINA
Not in front of me. I don't know
what kind of stuff you've said
about her to Willie.

BOBBY
I wouldn't say anything bad about
her to Willie. He likes her. He's
always wanted to do her.

TINA
Do her? You know how much I hate
that expression?

BOBBY
Probably a lot. But it's *his*
expression. Not mine.

TINA
Really? It's not how you talk when
I'm not around? You know, to Willie
and your other pals? You don't talk
(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)
about "doing" and "banging" and
"nailing pussy" and all that crap.

BOBBY
No...

TINA
Really?

BOBBY
Yeah because of what my mom told
me.

TINA
Which was?

BOBBY
I've told you this. That I should
always show respect for women.

TINA
Really. Kinda the opposite of what
your dad showed for *her*.

BOBBY
Definitely the opposite.

TINA
Yeah? So what did you tell Willie
about Jill? You know, when he said
he wanted to do her.

BOBBY
Whatya mean?

TINA
You know what I mean. That she's
gay.

BOBBY
I said there was possibility that
she might be. Because that's what
you told me.

TINA
No it isn't.

BOBBY
You told me she wasn't definite
about coming out.

TINA
Which is a whole different thing.

BOBBY
Maybe it isn't. Maybe she's not
definite about coming out because
she's not definite about being gay.

TINA

Except she is. She's just not sure if she wants everyone to know.

BOBBY

Who do you think she means by everyone?

TINA

I don't know exactly, but I'm pretty sure it includes assholes like Willie.

BOBBY

Okay yeah but even if he knows, who's he gonna tell in prison? I mean besides my uncle Ray, and Ray's in for ten years.

TINA

Jesus. What for?

BOBBY

I forgot to ask. We got all involved in talking about his Mohawk. But it was probably for something really stupid because Ray's the biggest idiot in my dad's family.

TINA

Wow. That's amazing. And there'd be so much competition for that title, wouldn't there. What about your aunt Lucy?

BOBBY

Lucy's not nearly as bad as--

TINA

She uses her kids as decoys when she shoplifts for chrissake.

BOBBY

Okay that makes her a bad person for sure, but it doesn't mean--

TINA

How about your dad? You're saying Ray's a bigger idiot than your dad?

BOBBY

Way bigger. I mean some of the dumb shit Ray's pulled... He sold his girlfriend once.

TINA

Whatya mean sold her? He pimped her out?

BOBBY

No he sold her. A buddy of his really liked her, so for seven hundred bucks Ray dumped her and let this guy make his move. Then this other time he kidnapped a jockey and tried to--

TINA

No that's enough, okay. Just don't tell anyone else.

BOBBY

About Ray?

TINA

No. About Jill.

BOBBY

You mean about her probably being gay.

TINA

She's not "probably" gay. She's-- Look just don't tell anyone anything about her ever. Okay?

BOBBY

Yeah because if she finds out, it'd just give her another reason to kill me

TINA

You know, Bobby, all that's just about her trying to shock you, so that you'll step up.

BOBBY

Okay so...

(approaching)

So just tell her that's what I'm doing. Tell her the next job I get I'm gonna keep no matter what. And tell her that we're gonna be together and that everything's gonna be good.

(hugs her)

Really good.

TINA

Those things just all sound like promises. And we're at a place where promises mean shit. It's gotta be everything *is* good.

(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

And how's that gonna happen soon enough?

BOBBY

Soon enough for what?

TINA

(pulling away)
Keeping this baby! Jesus. Try to pay attention!

BOBBY

It's not that I'm not paying attention. It's more like I'm paying too much attention. And it's kinda overloading my brain. So when you say something, I'm still thinking really hard about what you said before. And I kinda fall behind.

TINA

Sure. That must be it ... Look if we're gonna do this thing, let's just try to figure out how it could work, okay. And let's be real about it. Because this might be the most important thing we ever decide. So let's do it in a real way. Like with real numbers.

BOBBY

What kind of numbers?

TINA

Numbers on a possible pay cheque. Numbers on a lease for a new apartment. Numbers on a list of expenses. Let's just see what all those numbers would look like if we were trying to live with them. Okay?

BOBBY

I guess so, yeah.

TINA

Okay... so because we want to keep this real, let's say that any job you get is gonna be for minimum wage.

BOBBY

Or maybe more.

TINA

Not much more.

BOBBY

I'd like it to be quite a bit more.

TINA

It doesn't matter what you'd like.

BOBBY

I can't even *say* what I'd like?

TINA

No. Because you've got no skills.

BOBBY

Well none that I know about.

TINA

You think one might just show up?

BOBBY

Why not? I mean I could pick up a certain kind of tool or find myself in a situation where a skill I didn't know I had, is just suddenly there. And I use it, and there you go. I'm a skilled...whatever. I mean it could happen, right.

TINA

Yes. But just in case it doesn't, let's just say minimum wage.

BOBBY

Okay but how about a *bit* more than that. Just so it's not depressing.

TINA

If it's depressing, it's depressing. We need to know if we can deal with that. So what is it? Minimum wage... Four hundred a week?

BOBBY

Around that.

TINA

And how much for a two-bedroom apartment?

BOBBY

Wouldn't just one be okay?

TINA

One bedroom. Two kids. How is that supposed to work?

BOBBY

We could sleep on a pullout couch.

TINA

And you'd be okay with that?

BOBBY

It won't be permanent. Just until--

TINA

Until what? You get your law degree? I'm sorry. That was a cheap shot.

BOBBY

It's okay. You're all--

TINA

Worked up? Desperate? Confused? Frustrated? Very fucking scared? Okay forget that ... Your salary will probably cover the rent on some kind of one-bedroom apartment.

BOBBY

That's good.

TINA

Ya think? How will we eat?

BOBBY

Well there's always--

TINA

If you say the food bank, this conversation is fucking over.

BOBBY

Cutting back. We could just cut back.

TINA

To what?

BOBBY

Well when my dad was out of work we ate a lot of potatoes.

TINA

Potatoes.

BOBBY

Yeah...

TINA

And when was that?

BOBBY

I was five or six.

TINA

And all you ate was potatoes.

BOBBY

Well not all. But mostly. There's a lot you can do with potatoes.

TINA

And so you think that's what we can do. Make various potato dishes.

BOBBY

Yeah. Or we can use the food bank.

TINA

Jesus!

BOBBY

I mean just until--

TINA

You get your pilot's licence?!

BOBBY

I thought you weren't going to take cheap shots like that anymore.

TINA

Did I say that?

BOBBY

You said you were sorry.

TINA

I was. I'm not now. You're talking like a goddamn idiot.

BOBBY

No I'm not.

TINA

Shut up!

BOBBY

No I'm just trying to--

TINA

I said shut up!

(inhales)

Please. I need a minute. Okay. So just...be quiet.

She sits on the bench. Puts her head down. He looks at her. Sits on the ground.

TINA (CONT'D)

(head up)

I'm sorry I told you to shut up.

(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

It's just that for me the food bank is so...

(looks at him hard)

I can't see this. I just can't see it. Bobby. Help me. How's it gonna be okay for our baby to be born. I mean can we actually live with your father and his dooper girlfriend. Is she really okay, or is she just a little better than your dad.

BOBBY

No overall, she's way better.

TINA

And would your father keep his stupid mouth closed around me. You know, keep all his ugly stupid opinions about the government and immigrants and everything else to himself. And not tell any of his ignorant fart jokes or tit jokes or prick and ass jokes, or tell me about all the times he's puked in public, or pissed in public or fucked in public, or watched other people puke, piss or fuck in public. You think he could stop all that?

BOBBY

I could ask.

TINA

Yeah you could ask. But would that be enough? I mean he is a selfish ignorant asshole so--

BOBBY

I meant I could ask Winnie. Maybe she could get him to be good.

TINA

But you'd have to do that when she wasn't high, I guess. And how often is that?

BOBBY

Not too often. She says it's mostly because of her injuries. You know, from all her motorcycle accidents.

TINA

Plus the beatings she took from her biker Daddies. You know what, we're gonna cross living with your father and Winnie off the list.

BOBBY

Right.

TINA

Which takes us back to the shelter idea.

BOBBY

Not a fucking chance. That idea sucks.

TINA

Why?

BOBBY

Shelters are full of desperate people.

TINA

I'm a desperate person.

BOBBY

I meant desperate in a way that makes them do things. Things that you won't be able to deal with.

TINA

How do you know what I can deal with? I can deal with anything I need to deal with.

BOBBY

Like people stealing stuff from you? Like people getting high or violent around you? You can't protect Holly from all that.

TINA

Hey, look around, pal. Look where we've been living. There are a lot of desperate people in that building we're getting evicted from.

BOBBY

They're not desperate. They're just poor.

TINA

Well whatya think makes them desperate?

BOBBY

Okay but there's poor, then there's really poor. There's poor where it's hard to come up with the rent on time. Then there's poor where it's hard to come up with anything.

(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Ever. We're gonna do better than a shelter.

TINA

But I hear you can get help there.

BOBBY

What kind of help?

TINA

Help getting back in school. Help with child care. Some financial assistance. You know, just so I could move forward.

(looks at him)

This is mostly for single moms though. All this help I mean. I'd have to tell them you were out of the picture.

BOBBY

But that's something you'd just be telling them, right.

TINA

No. They'd look into it. It'd have to be true.

BOBBY

Really?

TINA

Yeah...

BOBBY

So you'd be moving forward on your own.

TINA

Well... with Holly.

BOBBY

But not with me.

TINA

And not with the baby. Because there's only so much they can do to help. And only so much I can do on my own. So...

Bobby has his head down.

TINA (CONT'D)

Bobby? You okay?

BOBBY

No I'm not fucking okay! Why would I be okay?

His cell phone goes off.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
(checks phone)
I gotta take this.

TINA
Can't you just ignore the fool?

BOBBY
It's not Willie.

He answers the cell.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
Yeah, hi... Yeah I talked to him,
but we didn't get around to that
... We just didn't ... No I don't
have that anymore ... Because I
lost the job ... How am I gonna do
that? I don't have a credit card
... Okay good. That's good.

He disconnects.

TINA
What was that all about?

BOBBY
Nothing.

TINA
Nothing...

BOBBY
I mean nothing much.

TINA
What would you need a credit card
for?

BOBBY
Nothing.

TINA
(advancing)
Jesus!

BOBBY
Renting a van.

TINA
Why would you need to rent a van.

BOBBY
I don't anymore. Sonny's gonna do
it.

TINA

That was Sonny? Sonny Le Gros?

BOBBY

Yeah...

TINA

Jesus. How are mixed up with that loser?

BOBBY

I'm not really. Willie is. I mean he was. He was his partner.

TINA

His partner in...?

BOBBY

You know, stealing stuff. Is it okay with you if we don't talk about this anymore?

TINA

Do you *think* it's okay with me?

BOBBY

Probably not. But it'll be way better if we don't.

TINA

What's going on? Why do you and Sonny Le Gros need a van?

BOBBY

If I tell you that, I probably have to tell you everything.

TINA

You have to tell me everything anyway.

BOBBY

How about I just tell you not to worry about it, and then you could just try trusting me?

TINA

Trusting you to do what?

BOBBY

Stay out of trouble.

TINA

What kind of trouble? What are you talking about?

BOBBY

Okay don't get all--

TINA
(advancing)
What the fuck are you talking
about?!

BOBBY
Sonny's got a storage locker.

TINA
He's got a what?

BOBBY
A storage locker... And we need to
get all the stuff that's in it, out
of it.

TINA
You mean all the stuff he and
Willie stole.

BOBBY
Yeah...

TINA
And you're supposed to go get all
this stuff, load it into a van, and
do what with it?

BOBBY
Well we have to sell it, don't we?

TINA
Do you?

BOBBY
Yeah or what was the point of
stealing it in the first place.

TINA
What I meant was, why should that
involve you, Bobby?!

BOBBY
This is the part that I'm not sure
I wanna get into right now. I mean
not while we're talking about the
possibility of being together or
the possibility of *not...being*
together. Because if I don't
explain it in the right way then I
think things between us are gonna
turn pretty bad. And it's really
hard to explain.

TINA
Okay. So let me try to get you
started then. You lied to me
before, didn't you.
(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

You were involved in all those break-ins. You and Willie and fucking Sonny Le Gros were doing those jobs together. You broke into those houses *together*.

BOBBY

No.

TINA

What's that mean, no? You took turns?

BOBBY

I didn't go inside. I acted as lookout. But like I told you, that scared me so--

TINA

So you stopped doing it.

BOBBY

After that one time. And one or two other times. Yeah.

TINA

Jesus. So you didn't go into the houses and you didn't stand lookout after those one or two times.

BOBBY

Three actually. But then, no.

TINA

Okay. So what the fuck *did* you do?

BOBBY

I did...research.

TINA

I'm sorry. Research?

BOBBY

Yeah. I found out who was living there. You know, how many people. When they left for work. When they came home...

TINA

You cased the place.

BOBBY

Yeah. I didn't say that because I didn't know if you were familiar with the term.

TINA

You cased the place for your thieving dirtbag friends. You were part of a gang of low-life criminal scum.

BOBBY

It didn't seem that bad at the time. I told you, I figured there was no way the people in those houses were gonna miss that stuff. So that makes it different.

TINA

No it doesn't.

BOBBY

Sure. It has to. It's a whatyacallit...a victimless crime.

TINA

Except there are victims.

BOBBY

No we'd be victims if *they* stole from us.

TINA

They who? Willie and fucking Sonny Le Gros?

BOBBY

No. The people in those renos. If they stole from us...

TINA

Oh. We'd be victims if they stole from us. But they're not victims because you--

BOBBY

I've thought a lot about this, T.

TINA

When you say a lot...?

BOBBY

It's even been in the back of my mind all this time we've been talking. Who's a victim and...who isn't. What the whole situation is with the law and the whole thing about what's right or wrong in any situation... and how maybe if I did what I did to give you some of the money I've been giving you, that would make it okay. Well maybe not okay. But not really wrong.

(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Okay wrong but not... I don't know, mean. I didn't do it to be mean to those people. I just did it because of our situation. And here's the thing. Remember how I said I was waiting for a skill, a thing I was good at, to just kinda show up. Maybe it already did. Because the info I gave those guys was always very solid and all the... operations went off without a problem.

TINA

Except for when Willie got caught.

BOBBY

Yeah but here's the thing about that. I'd gotten that job at the carpet store so I couldn't finish my research on that particular house. I warned them not to go ahead, but they did. And the rest is, you know, what happened.

TINA

Are you telling me that you think you might have a future in crime, Bobby?

BOBBY

Not crime in general. Not anything violent. Not anything that could even lead to violence. And not anything too big. Or involving a lot of risk. And not anything that hurt people who didn't have a lot. But yeah, what I did for Willie and Sonny Le Gros, I could do that. Why not?

TINA

Because then you'd be a criminal.

BOBBY

But we'd have money. And a nice place to live.

TINA

A place paid for by criminal activity.

BOBBY

We'd have enough to eat. Enough to get Holly nice clothes and toys. Enough to have this baby. And take great care of it. And all be together.

TINA

You're serious, aren't you. I mean you're talking like it's something you have actually given a lot of thought to.

BOBBY

I have.

TINA

How about that. There's finally something important enough for you to think about all the way through. And this is it.

BOBBY

Well... yeah because the thing is, I'm pretty sure a regular job's never going to work out for me. I was never given the proper advice about that. All my dad ever said was "whatever job you get, don't take any shit. No son of mine takes shit from anyone." And my mum just told me to find something that made me even a little happy.

TINA

So doing "research" for break and enter artists, that makes you a little happy?

BOBBY

Well I'm good at it, like I said.

TINA

Yeah...

BOBBY

Yeah...

(a hand on her cheek)

So what about it? Can you get behind this?

Tina just looks at him.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Tina?

She is still just looking at him.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

T?

TINA

There was this woman in the playground last week ... Not a mum, a business type.

(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

She was just hanging around, looking at the kids playing. And after awhile she came up to me and asked if I'd like Holly to be in a commercial.

BOBBY

Like on tv?

TINA

Yeah. I thought she might just be kidding or that maybe she was nuts, but she had a card, and she told me if I was interested I should just show up at the address on it next morning for an... audition. Then she just walked away.

BOBBY

So?

TINA

I thought about it and it didn't seem right. I mean it didn't seem like it would be something I could do.

BOBBY

Why not?

TINA

Because...well do you know anyone who's ever done something like that? Auditioned for a commercial or a movie...

BOBBY

Not really.

TINA

"Not really" meaning what?

BOBBY

Well I guess sometimes I've kinda thought about doing it.

TINA

Right. But in the real world, the one where you're not actually a rap star, the one we actually live in... Well that kind of thing just isn't part of it, is it.

BOBBY

No. It's not.

TINA

Right. But then I thought so what. There'd be money in it. Maybe a lot of money. So I got Holly all dressed up and we got down to that building and we went in. And someone pointed us to a door and we opened it and went into this room and there were maybe ten, twelve women in there all waiting with kids about the same age as Holly. And it was like they all knew each other. Like it was a club or something. Like they'd all done this a lot. Anyway a few of the mothers started looking over at us. You know, checking us out. And then a few more and then basically all of them were just ...looking at us. And... I knew they knew.

BOBBY

Knew what?

TINA

That we didn't belong there. That my kid didn't belong in any commercial or any tv show or anything like that. It just wasn't for us.

(looks at Bobby, smiles)

So when are you supposed to meet Sonny?

BOBBY

He said he'd call.

TINA

And then you just take all that stolen stuff and--

BOBBY

He knows people who'll buy it from us.

TINA

And you want to do this?

BOBBY

Well it'll only take an hour or two...

TINA

I meant in your life. That's what you want to do in your life?

BOBBY
I'm thinking it's maybe what I
should do.

TINA
Really?

BOBBY
Yeah...

TINA
Yeah...

BOBBY
Yeah what?

TINA
Maybe I'm thinking that too...
Yeah. I am. That's what you have to
do. I mean maybe it's our best
chance to keep this baby.

BOBBY
And have a life?

TINA
Have a life, yeah.

BOBBY
At least until something better
comes up.

TINA
Yeah. Except it probably won't. I
mean I'll try to go back to school
and then get a job that pays okay,
but with two kids and you still not
having a job because you've been
too busy being a thief to get one,
that's probably not gonna happen. I
mean something better...

BOBBY
So I might be doing it for awhile?

TINA
Yeah. That okay?

BOBBY
I guess.

TINA
But you have to be careful. I mean
really careful, Bobby. And you
can't tell anyone. Especially not
your dad.

BOBBY

You think he won't approve?

TINA

No I think he'll turn you in for a reward.

BOBBY

Yeah. I just... well I wonder if my mom would understand. I mean I think she'd understand that it was all about wanting to have this baby.

TINA

She would.

BOBBY

I hope, yeah.

TINA

No I know it for sure... She told me something about her mother once. Something she never told you because...well it was just something she thought you'd be better off not knowing for some reason.

BOBBY

She never told me things that might depress me. Is this gonna depress me?

TINA

Well it definitely depressed me. But since we're in this situation...

BOBBY

I never knew her, you know. My grandmother. She died when my mom was just a kid.

TINA

Yeah. She was killed.

BOBBY

Killed?

TINA

She went to some guy who did abortions. Not a doctor, just some guy above a store... And he butchered her. Your mom was five, and your grandmother didn't want to have any more kids because of your grandfather.

BOBBY

He was a drunk, right. Just another drunk?

TINA

Worse than most, she said. And your grandmother probably figured she'd never be able to get away from him if she had another kid. So she found this guy. He didn't do a very good job. And she bled to death.

BOBBY

My mom told me she died peacefully in her sleep.

TINA

She should have told you the truth. This is what we're from. This is the sad shit that happens, Bobby.

BOBBY

In my family.

TINA

Mine too.

BOBBY

Really?

TINA

My mum was a twin. She had a brother. But he died at birth ... So my grandfather, he had to wrap up the dead baby's body in a towel and take it on a bus to a funeral home. But they wouldn't bury it because he didn't have any money. And they wouldn't let him pay a little at a time. So all my grandfather could do was bring the body home again. When I think of him sitting on that bus holding his dead child... Man...

BOBBY

So... what did they do with the body?

TINA

My mum's pretty sure they buried it in the backyard My grandparents' whole lives were basically humiliating, from the sound of it. That thing they say about people coming here looking for a better life for their kids and their kids' kids...

BOBBY

I guess it doesn't always work out,
does it?

TINA

No it doesn't.

(looks at him)

I think that story about how your
grandmother died trying to get that
abortion means your mom would
understand us not wanting to be
forced to do anything like that.

BOBBY

It wouldn't be like that. You'd get
it done by a doctor if you had to.

TINA

Right. So I probably wouldn't die.
I'd just wish I had. But what I'm
saying is... your mom would want *us*
to try really hard to find a way
not to do it at all.

BOBBY

Ya think?

TINA

I do. Yeah. Especially if we were
being more or less forced.

BOBBY

Even if it meant I had to help
steal a few things.

TINA

I think so. I mean I don't know for
sure but--

BOBBY

I mean I'd try to only take stuff
from people who already had a lot.

TINA

Well yeah, because if you took
stuff from people who didn't have
much then you'd be just like that
shithead who boosted Holly's
stroller, wouldn't you.

BOBBY

Yeah. Man, I'm still really pissed
about that. That was a nice
stroller.

TINA

It was piece of crap. But it was
ours.

(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

And it was really hard to come up with the money to replace it.

BOBBY

Which was totally my fault, I know. But I'm gonna make it up to you. I'm gonna make everything up to you.

TINA

Oh no. Don't go trying to make up for everything in the past. It'll put way too much pressure on you.

BOBBY

Yeah. Probably.

TINA

Anyway now you have a plan.

BOBBY

Well I have a plan to get a plan. I mean to get some guys and put together a plan to do what I need to do.

TINA

With absolutely no violence involved.

BOBBY

Absolutely.

TINA

And we never ever tell anyone.

BOBBY

Why would we?

TINA

Well one of us sometimes just blurts stuff out.

BOBBY

That's only to you. I never blurt out stuff to anyone else about anything important that I'm doing.

TINA

Really? When have ever you done an important thing and never told anyone about it?

BOBBY

When I went after you. When I decided I needed you back in my life even after you decided you didn't need me and went off and had Holly on your own. I didn't tell anyone I was going to get you back. I just kept it to myself and went out and got that job at the factory. And then I called you. You remember?

TINA

Yeah sure I remember, Bobby.

BOBBY

You remember what I said?

TINA

You said you were going to make everything all right.

BOBBY

And that was my intention.

TINA

And then the factory closed.

BOBBY

Yeah. And that set me back a little.

TINA

Post traumatic stress...

BOBBY

Yeah...

TINA

Right. So if we start off on this we can't get set back by anything.

BOBBY

You mean we have to stay positive. Wow. Do we even know anyone who's positive? I mean in case we need to look for a role model or something.

TINA

My mum was pretty positive. I mean until her arthritis got bad.

BOBBY

My mum was just worried. She was worried about everything. All the time.

TINA

I know.

BOBBY

I don't want you worried about *me*, okay. I mean when I start doing crime on a regular basis.

TINA

That'll depend...

BOBBY

On what?

TINA

The guys you'd be working with for one thing.

BOBBY

I'd probably have to start with Sonny Le Gros. And probably his little brother Ricky. You know him, right?

TINA

Yeah I've seen him slithering around. Okay. But we should definitely look for better guys you can switch over to eventually. Guys who have half a brain and take a bath sometimes.

BOBBY

How we gonna do that?

TINA

It'll be a team. We'll make them try out.

(moving around)

Okay this is definitely what we have to do. I mean fuck it. I've never done anything bad in my whole life. I always helped my mom at home. I was never part of any bitchy clique at school. I got that job at the jewellery store, and I kept it until my boss saw I was pregnant and fired me because I wasn't hot enough for the male customers anymore. Asshole.

BOBBY

Fucking asshole.

TINA

I've tried to be a good mother.
I've tried to be a good friend.

(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

I've tried to keep loving you even when it was really really hard sometimes ... There's nothing wrong in all that, is there.

BOBBY

No way. You're fucking perfect.

TINA

No I'm not. I'm just saying behaving like that, where did it get me. So from now on we do whatever we need to do to make things better.

Bobby's cell goes off.

TINA (CONT'D)

That Sonny?

BOBBY

Probably. He's going to wanna make arrangements to go to the storage locker.

(looks at phone)

It's not Sonny. It's Willie.

TINA

(hand out)

Let me.

He hand her the phone. She connects.

TINA (CONT'D)

Hi, Willie ... Yeah it's me ... He's right here, but I wanted to talk to you first ... How important?... No just tell me Jesus.

(to Bobby)

Sonny Le Gros got arrested.

BOBBY

How?

TINA

(into phone)

How?

(to Bobby)

The cops were watching the storage locker and they--

BOBBY

We were supposed to go there together.

TINA
(into phone)
Why didn't he take Bobby? ...
(to Bobby)
He doesn't know.

BOBBY
He probably decided to cut me out
of the proceeds.

TINA
That makes sense.
(into phone)
Willie. Tell me something, how do
you know all this?...
(to Bobby)
He called him. The guy gets his one
phone call and he uses it to call
someone in prison.
(into phone)
And they actually let you come to
the phone? ...
(to Bobby)
A guard told him.

BOBBY
So what's he want me to do?

TINA
To hell with what he wants you to
do.
(into phone)
Get this, asshole. Bobby's not your
messenger or your-- ... No he won't
be trying to get bail money for the
dirtbag ... Because he just won't.
And that's final. So don't call him
anymore. And stop fucking whining!

She disconnects.

TINA (CONT'D)
You're cutting it off with those
clowns right now.

BOBBY
But I might need them for awhile.

TINA
They're in custody for chrissake,
Bobby. And by the time they get out
we'll be on our way to something
better. With better partners.
Whose idea was it to keep that
stuff in a storage locker?

BOBBY
Mine.

TINA

That's kinda disappointing.

BOBBY

Why? I heard that's where a lot of guys keep their stolen shit.

TINA

And you didn't think the cops might have heard that too?

BOBBY

No I-- Jesus!

(a slap to his head)

Idiot! Maybe from now on I should leave the details to you.

TINA

No you're the guy with the skill. You just need to maybe check with me before you decide anything.

BOBBY

Good idea. Because confidence is a little shaken right now.

TINA

Tell you what, we'll work on the plans together. Just until your confidence is back to where it was. Or maybe even better than it was.

BOBBY

Yeah. Good idea.

TINA

Okay then...

Her cell goes off.

TINA (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Hi... Yeah we're working things out. Bobby came up with a plan...

(to Bobby)

Jill says good for you.

BOBBY

Tell her thanks.

TINA

(into phone)

He says thanks...

(to Bobby)

She says you're welcome...

(into phone)

Okay I'll see you soon ...

(MORE)

TINA (CONT'D)

No she's just messing with you. She eats raw beans all the time. She loves them.

She disconnects. Notices Bobby's smile

BOBBY

I love raw beans too.

TINA

Yeah. I remember.

BOBBY

That's great that Holly likes them. I didn't know that.

He smiles. She kinda smiles back.

TINA

And cheddar cheese. She likes that too.

BOBBY

A lot? Does she like it as much as I do?

TINA

Yeah. I think she probably does.

BOBBY

Really? That's... ah...ah...

TINA

Okay okay. You don't have to cry about it.

BOBBY

Yes. I do. I mean what else don't I know about her?

(a slap to his head)

What the fuck was wrong with me? Why couldn't I just be there?

TINA

You were there sometimes.

BOBBY

Why couldn't I always be there?

TINA

You weren't ready.

BOBBY

Yeah.... How come when I said that you said I was full of shit?

TINA

Because you were using it as an excuse. Even if it was the truth you shouldn't have used it as an excuse not to be responsible.

BOBBY

But that's what I wasn't ready for. To be responsible.

TINA

You think I was ready to be a mother at nineteen?

BOBBY

You seemed ready. You even seemed happy about it.

TINA

There's a difference between being happy and being ready.

BOBBY

I was too scared to even be happy. But now there's Holly. She's actually here. And she--

TINA

Likes cheddar cheese and raw beans like you do. And that makes you feel good about her. That makes you really love her?

BOBBY

I love her for a lot of reasons. I love that she's funny. Like you are. And kinda tough like you are. That she kinda talks like you... and looks like you, and --

TINA

So basically you love her because--

BOBBY

Because she's totally like you, yeah.

TINA

Except for some of the food she eats...

An ambulance goes by. They both watch it. Bobby moves to see where it's going.

TINA (CONT'D)

You wanna go see what's up?

BOBBY

No.

TINA

Really? Because it's okay if you do.

BOBBY

No. I'm over that.

Another vehicle with a siren goes by.

TINA

Cops too.

BOBBY

Yeah. Lots of them. Must be something bad.

TINA

Go ahead. Go see what it is.

BOBBY

No. I can't.

TINA

You can't?

BOBBY

Not really. No.

TINA

Since when?

BOBBY

I'm not sure. But it just stopped being something I wanted to know about.

TINA

Maybe because you'd started breaking the law yourself.

BOBBY

Maybe... No yeah you're probably right.

TINA

You've probably been thinking that some day it'd be you they were after.

(hands thrown up)

Ah shit!

BOBBY

What?

TINA
Our grandchildren!

BOBBY
What?

TINA
Our grandchildren!? What are they gonna say about us? What kind of sad pathetic stories are they gonna tell? "He couldn't hold a job and she was afraid of a not-so-great future so they turned to crime. And then one night they were caught coming out of a house they'd just robbed and the cops gunned them down"

BOBBY
There's no way they'd be telling that story.

TINA
Why not?

BOBBY
Well why would the cops gun us down? We'd just surrender.

TINA
And wind up in prison. Leaving both our kids alone.

BOBBY
Why would they be alone? They'd be with--

TINA
Who? My disabled mother? Your asshole dad and Winnie the biker chick?

BOBBY
What about Jill? She likes kids, right.

TINA
Yeah. And you're okay with her raising ours?

BOBBY
Well if there's no one else. And she promised not to tell them stories that made me seem like-

TINA

Like a low life crook? Jesus... I guess she could just tell everyone we didn't have a choice. "It was either doing crime or getting rid of the baby."

(gestures)

What a pair of stupid sickening losers.

BOBBY

Is that still Jill talking? Or is that last part, the grandchildren talking? Because if it is, you gotta hope they'd show a little more respect.

TINA

(looks at him)

Okay we can't do this. This is not gonna be good in the long run. We have to come up with something else.

BOBBY

Like what?

TINA

I don't know yet. But it can't be anything that makes us sound stupid and afraid and pathetic when people talk about us. I mean we just can't let ourselves feel be trapped like this. You know, trapped into thinking it's either becoming criminal scum or not having this baby. It can't be just one of those things and nothing else. Okay?

BOBBY

I guess.

TINA

That doesn't sound like you mean it. You have to mean it.

BOBBY

Mean what?

TINA

That we're not gonna be criminals.

BOBBY

That was a definite decision then?

TINA

Yeah.

BOBBY

Great. So...

TINA

So you'll just get a job. Any kind of job. And we'll have this baby. And...

BOBBY

And what?

TINA

Well we'll just start with that.

Another ambulance goes by. He watches it.

BOBBY

(to himself)

Yeah...

TINA

What?

BOBBY

(turning to Tina)

The army. I could join... the army.

TINA

The army? Really? Where did that come from?

BOBBY

I couldn't be a cop because I know too many criminals. And I can't join the fire department because of my problems with fire.

TINA

And your fear of heights.

BOBBY

Right. But the army, that's a whole other thing.

TINA

Yeah. It sure is.

BOBBY

They're looking for people, aren't they.

TINA

I don't know.

BOBBY

I think they are. I could join up and we'd have a steady income.

TINA
But you'd be in the army.

BOBBY
Yeah...

TINA
And what do you think that means?

BOBBY
(shrugs)
I'd be a soldier.

TINA
A soldier who fights? Who goes away
to war and fights.

BOBBY
Maybe. But--

TINA
Forget the buts. You could do that?
If they sent you somewhere to fight
and maybe get killed you'd be okay
with that.

BOBBY
Well no. I mean who's okay with
getting killed but--

TINA
Forget the buts!

BOBBY
I'm just saying maybe they wouldn't
send me anywhere.

TINA
They can though. They can send you
any fucking place they want to.

BOBBY
Without asking?

TINA
Yeah.

BOBBY
Okay but suppose it was somewhere
nice.

TINA
You think there's gonna be a war
somewhere nice.

BOBBY

Well maybe there *was* a war there before, and I'd just be there to make sure there wasn't another one.

TINA

So you'd be like a ...peacekeeper.

BOBBY

Right.

TINA

Okay but they get killed too, you know.

BOBBY

How often?

TINA

Who cares how often? The point is you have to be prepared to fucking die, Bobby. Are you?

BOBBY

Not now. But I'd get training.

TINA

Training that prepares you to die?

BOBBY

Yeah...

TINA

What about us? Me and your two kids. Will they prepare *us* for you to die too?

BOBBY

Maybe. If we ask them.

TINA

You're not joining the army.

BOBBY

I might have to if I can't come up with anything else.

TINA

You're not joining the army, Bobby. If you can't come up with anything, I'll get some kind of job and you... you can... you can... stay home with the kids.

BOBBY

Really? That's a big deal, being with the kids.

TINA
Yeah it is.

BOBBY
You think I can do that?

TINA
No.
(off his look)
I mean not without some training.

BOBBY
Yeah...

TINA
But maybe... after that, you'd be
really good at it. Who knows?

BOBBY
Right.
(smiles)
Yeah...

He is thinking.

She watches him.

Several sirens are approaching and rush by. Bobby watches
them go.

TINA
Must be something big.

BOBBY
Yeah. Really big.

TINA
You wanna go see?

BOBBY
Ahh ... No. I mean... unless you
do.

TINA
I'll come with you if you want.

BOBBY
You will?

TINA
Yeah. I mean we've still got some
stuff to figure out but--

BOBBY
Right. No. We should just stay and--

Another couple of sirens.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Wow. That's like six, seven cop cars, five fire trucks... plus what, three ambulances?

TINA

Three or four, yeah.

BOBBY

That's a lot. I've never seen that many going... anywhere. You ever seen that many of those things going to the same place. I haven't. No way.

TINA

If you wanna go, we can go.

BOBBY

(barely there)
No... that's okay.

TINA

You sure?

But Bobby is looking off. Transfixed.

TINA (CONT'D)

Bobby? ... Bobby ...

She takes his arm, and guides him down onto the bench. He is still looking off. She is looking at him.

Blackout

THE END

(CONT'D)

