

**CASINO**

**INT. ACE'S TANGIERS PENTHOUSE**

ACE and GINGER are alone in the living room. The apartment looks out on the glittering neon signs of the Strip.

**ACE (V.O.)**

Within no time, everything was set in place. We got rid of the freelance scamsters. The per was way up. The gods were happy, or as happy as the gods can ever be. And I, I decided to complicate my life. For a guy who likes sure things, I was about to bet the rest of my life on a real longshot.

**ACE**

We're not getting any younger. Don't you think it's time? Aren't you gettin' tired of all this shit? Bangin' around, hustlin' around?

**GINGER**

What, are you trying to handicap me?

**ACE**

I'm gonna do you one better. I'm trying to marry you. You want to marry me?

(GINGER looks doubtful.)

I'm serious. I mean, I - I want to settle down. I want a family.

**GINGER**

(Sighs, laughing)

You got the wrong girl, Sam.

**ACE**

I know I'd be a good father. I know you'd be a good mother.

**GINGER**

You don't know me. What, you've known me, two, three months. What do you know?

**ACE**

I'm forty-three years old. I don't want to wait. I know you well enough to know that I really love you very much. And I can't think of anybody better to be with. And I don't feel like waiting anymore.

**GINGER**

You know a lot of happily married people, Sam? 'Cause I don't.

**ACE**

Yeah, I know all that.

**GINGER**

I care about you, a - But I just don't have those kind of feelings for you. I'm sorry. I'm not in love with you.

**ACE**

(Brushing cigarette ash off his dressing gown)

**I - I - I...**

**GINGER**

Understand?  
(Pause)  
I'm sorry.

**ACE**

No, I - I... mean... that can grow as I - as long as there's a mutual respect... that kind of thing can grow. I'm realistic. I can accept that. But, you know, what is... What is love anyway? It's a... it's a mutual respect. It's - it's a devotion. It's a... it's a caring from one person to another. And if we could set up some kind of foundation... based on that mutual respect... I feel that eventually you would care enough about me... that I could live with that.

**GINGER**

If it doesn't work out. You know, if it doesn't play out, then what happens to me?

**ACE**

You know I'm doin' well now. And I'm gonna do even better. And so, whatever happens, if it doesn't work out between us, I'm gonna make sure you're okay for the rest of your life. And if there are kids, especially, you know, I'll take care of you better than you'd ever imagine.

**GINGER**

(Interrupts)  
What're you... what're you pitching me, here?

**ACE**

Just what I said. You'll be set up

for the rest of your life. That I  
can promise you.

(Pause)

Want to take a chance?

She looks at him. ACE is holding her hand tightly.

**CASINO (2)**

**INT. VEGAS RESTAURANT - NIGHT**

ACE and GINGER, dressed for dinner just like any other couple, walk towards a table overlooking the colorful lights of downtown Vegas.

**MAITRE D'**

...good evening. Signora.

**GINGER**

Gino.

**MAITRE D'**

This way.

**ACE (V.O.)**

(as they are led to  
their table)

The good part was, I had Amy back. So, we went home, had the housekeeper stay over, put the kid to bed, I calmed myself down and we went to dinner. I tried to keep things nice and civil, you know. But... hey, twenty-five thousand for three suits? That doesn't make much sense.

**ACE**

(Seated across from  
GINGER at a booth)

First of all, he's not gonna wear f-thousand-dollar suits. But let's say he did, which he won't. How you gonna get fitted for twenty-five suits in three days? I, um, I mean, how could you get fitted that fast? I can't get fitted that fast, and I pay twice as much.

**GINGER**

I bought him a watch too.

**ACE**

Yeah.

**GINGER**

Yeah.

**ACE**

But even if you bought him a watch, a really nice watch, one that he thought was nice - and he doesn't know what the fuck a good watch is - so, you go, five, ten, twelve grand?

**GINGER**

Yeah.

**ACE**

At the most, which is impossible for him.

She glances to the table behind them.

**ACE**

Plus, at the most, three suits, a thousand apiece. That still leaves what? Around ten thousand?

**GINGER**

(Staring down at her plate, trying to restrain herself)  
Would you knock it off, Sam?

**ACE**

I'm just tryin' to figure it out.

**GINGER**

There's nothin' to figure out. I'm home... we're workin' it out.

She lights a cigarette.

**ACE**

Yeah, but I've been told that before, 'We're workin' it out.' You think that you're home... after what you just put me through with Amy, is a favor to me?

She looks at ACE.

**ACE**

(Pause)  
So, counting the watch, let's say another four thousand for expenses over the weekend... of which you must have had a good time. I know he did. That's for sure. I know that... fuckin' piece of shit had a good fuckin' time. On my money. You might as well have fucked him, which you probably did anyway.

GINGER glares at him.

**ACE**

You're lookin' at me a certain way. You - you're teary-eyed, huh? You're upset. You're a good actress, you know that? Good fuckin' actress. You can fuckin' get that pity out of people. I'm not a john, you understand? You always thought I was, but I'm not. And I'm not a

sucker. That fuckin' pimp cocksucker.  
He's lucky I didn't kill him last  
time. Lucky he's fuckin' livin'.  
And if you would've stayed with Amy...  
and you would've ran away... you  
would've been fuckin' dead.

GINGER scoots out of the booth and leaves.

**ACE**

Both of you. Dead. Dead.

**CASINO (3)**

**INT. ACE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

Wide overhead of ACE alone in bed. Off-screen, we hear GINGER, a little drunk, on the phone.

**GINGER (O.S.)**

(Whispering into  
telephone)

I cannot do it anymore. I can't  
fuckin' live like this. It's not  
right.

ACE's point of view as he moves towards the sound of GINGER's voice. He enters frame and stops to listen.

**GINGER (O.S.)**

What are you? Yes, of course - He  
doesn't come home at night. What is  
the big fuckin' deal? I go - Yes,  
and I just - I can't fuckin' take  
it. Why should I fucking take it?  
That wasn't the deal. He acts like...  
like I'm the only one around here  
with a fuckin' past. He'll never let  
me live it down. Well... well, I  
mean, I tried. What the fuck do you  
think I came back here for? No, I'm  
not!

ACE slips into the foyer where he can see GINGER's reflection in a glass door as she talks on the phone in the living-room.

**GINGER**

(Whispering into  
telephone)

I want to have him killed. Yes, I  
want him killed. I've fuckin' had  
it.

**INT. ACE'S HOUSE, LIVING-ROOM - NIGHT**

GINGER is on the phone.

**GINGER**

(Into telephone)

So, are you with me on this?

ACE steps up behind her. She gasps, still holding the phone. Petrified.

**ACE**

You want to get rid of me? Here I  
am. Go ahead, get rid of me

(ACE grabs the phone.)

Hello.

He hears nothing and throws the phone down near her.

GINGER rises and attacks ACE.

**GINGER**

(Grunting)

Yes! I fuckin' hate you! I can't take it anymore!

ACE grapples with GINGER.

**GINGER**

Yes, I want to kill you! I hate your fuckin' guts!

**ACE**

You hate my guts? I want you to come with me now.

He drags her by her arms across the living-room hallway, into the bedroom.

**GINGER**

Get off of me! Stop it!

**ACE**

Come with me now! Come with me now. Come with me now. I want you out of here.

GINGER screams.

**INT. ACE'S HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT**

**ACE**

I want you out of here! I want you out of here!

**GINGER**

(Starting to get up)

Let go of me! Let go of me!

**INT. ACE'S HOUSE, BEDROOM CLOSET - NIGHT**

He pushes her against the closet wall, and throws an overnight bag at her.

**ACE**

Take your  
(kicking the bag)  
fuckin' bag and get out of here!

**GINGER**

I'll go, but I want my money right now!

ACE tosses clothes at her.

**ACE**

You'll get your money! Don't worry.



GINGER squats down and starts to gather her stuff.

**GINGER**

The arrangement is over!

**ACE**

(Tossing clothes)

No kidding. NO KIDDING!

**GINGER**

And I still get my money. I need some cash right now. You can't just put me in the street.

**ACE**

I'll get your cash. You haven't been straight with me ever since I met you! You never loved me in the first place! I need eyes in the back of my fuckin' head with you, you fuckin' bitch!

ACE walks past her to his side of the large walk-in closet. Racks and racks of her clothes are still hanging.

**GINGER**

Love you?!

She tosses a pair of red shoes at him.

**GINGER**

How could I love you?! How can I love you?! You treat me like I'm your fucking dog!

ACE leans down and opens a shoe box filled with money. He grabs as much cash as he can hold.

**ACE**

You're lower than a dog!

**GINGER**

Fuck you!

He walks up to her.

**ACE**

(Shoving the bundles of cash in her face)

Here. Here. Is this enough money?! Huh? Will it last you two fuckin' days? Take it, greedy bitch.

(Stuffing the money in her bag.)

Take the fuckin' money you fuckin' want.

**GINGER**

I'm going to the bank and I'm getting my jewelry too!

She puts on a white fur coat.

**ACE**

Yeah, no kidding. Good! It opens at 9 a.m. Be there!

**GINGER**

And don't send your guys down there to stop me! I mean it.

She bends down to pick up her bag, but ACE insists on carrying it.

**ACE**

I guarantee you, I will not stop you.

**INT. ACE'S HOUSE, BEDROOM/FOYER - NIGHT**

GINGER and ACE walk through their bedroom to the front door. He's carrying her suitcase.

**GINGER**

Stop! You aren't getting rid of me with one fuckin' suitcase!

**ACE**

You'll come back tomorrow and get the rest. Just get out of here.

**GINGER**

Fine.  
(Sniffs, walking back.)  
I'm takin' Amy.

**ACE**

(Stopping her)  
You're not takin' Amy.

**GINGER**

I am. I'm wakin' her up right now.

**ACE**

You're stoned. You're a junkie. Get out of here.

He opens the door and tosses her suitcase out.

**GINGER**

I am not! She's my daughter too! Goddamn you!

**ACE**

Get out of here!

He shoves her out the door.

**ACE**

Send my lawyers a letter.

(Slamming the door  
behind her.)

God-fuckin'-damn you!

He locks the door, and peers through the peep-hole.

**GINGER (O.S.)**

(Through the doors as  
ACE walks away)

You're not getting away with this!  
You're not gonna fuck me out of my  
end!

**CASINO (4)**

**INT. CONSTRUCTION TRAILER - EVENING**

GINGER and NICKY are alone in the large trailer. They are sitting close together on a couch.

**NICKY**

I mean, listen, two people don't get along, at some point you gotta call it... I mean, it's none of my business, but I ... I think that's what you gotta do. You gotta take it somewhere -

**GINGER**

(Smoking a cigarette)  
Oh, you're right, I know. It's... well, I was just -

**NICKY**

What? What?

**GINGER**

Nothin'.

**NICKY**

What were you gonna say? Go ahead.

**GINGER**

I don't -  
(Sighs.)

**NICKY**

Tell me what you were gonna say. Go ahead.

**GINGER**

Yeah?

**NICKY**

Yeah.

**GINGER**

Well, I was thinkin', maybe... you know somebody at the bank... could help me get my jewelry out? There's a lot of money in there. Lot of money in there, and I'd be willing to take care of anybody who helped me out.

**NICKY**

(Pauses)  
Let me think about that.

**GINGER**

Okay.

**NICKY**

See who I got in there. Gotta get somebody I can trust.

**GINGER**

Mm-hm.

**NICKY**

You know?

**GINGER**

Yeah. 'Cause, you know,  
(leaning her head  
back)  
He's never gonna give me my jewelry.

**NICKY**

Hm.

**GINGER**

He holds that key so tight, he's probably got it stuck up his ass.

**NICKY**

(Chuckles)  
Yeah, right. That's Sammy. And he's probably got it there too.

Takes a sip of his drink.

**GINGER**

He's so fuckin' lucky. I could have buried him. I could have gone to Europe and taken the baby. And then he'd've tracked me down and he'd've killed me.

**NICKY**

No, he wouldn't. I would have.  
(GINGER chuckles.)  
And he'd've been right, too. I mean, seriously.  
(She cuddles closer  
to him.)  
Well, there's one thing you don't do. You don't take a guy's kid and then take off.

**GINGER**

(Quietly)  
I didn't.  
(Chuckles.)  
I didn't. I mean, I did, but then I did exactly what you told me to do,

and I came right back.

**NICKY**

You did. You're right.

**GINGER**

Exactly.

NICKY embraces her.

**NICKY**

You did. I like that. I like that.  
That's what I like about you. You  
did the right thing.

**GINGER**

(Playing with his  
jacket)

I did what you told me to.

**NICKY**

Yes, you did.

**GINGER**

'Cause you always tell me the right  
thing to do.

**NICKY**

Yeah.

(Pause, with his arm  
around her.)

Boy, he really fucked himself up out  
here -

(She caresses his  
face.)

- didn't he?

**GINGER**

Sure did.

**NICKY**

Everything went to his head.

(He sighs, rubbing  
her neck.)

**NICKY/GINGER**

(In unison)

Changed.

**NICKY**

He did. He ain't the same person,  
right?

**GINGER**

(Whispering)

No, he's not.

**NICKY**

He really thinks who the fuck he is,  
I'll tell you that.

**GINGER**

(Holding back tears)  
Exactly.  
(Sighs.)  
He hates me.

She rests her head on NICKY's shoulder, starting to weep.

**GINGER**

He hates my fuckin' guts.

**NICKY**

Come on, come on, you're a toughie.  
You can take this.  
(Runs his hand down  
her cheek.)  
Don't cry.

**GINGER**

(Crying)  
I'm not as tough as you think I am.

**NICKY**

Yes, you are.

**GINGER**

(Sobbing)  
I'm not and he scares the shit out  
of me. I never know what he's gonna  
do.

**NICKY**

(Whispering)  
Come on. Don't be scared.

**GINGER**

(Softly, through tears)  
I need some help. I do. I need some  
help.  
(Strokes his chest.)  
You gotta help me. I need a new  
sponsor, Nicky.

GINGER's sobs subside a little and her hand starts to stroke  
NICKY's neck.

**GINGER**

(Whispering)  
I do. I need a new sponsor.

**NICKY**

(Quietly, cheek to  
cheek)

Is that what you want?

**GINGER**

Yeah.

**NICKY**

A sponsor.

**GINGER**

Yeah.

**NICKY**

Mm... okay. Don't worry about it.  
Nobody'll fuck with ya anymore.  
I'll take care of ya.

**GINGER**

(Whispering)  
Nicky, please...

**NICKY**

Yes, I will. It's what you want,  
isn't it? Huh?

**GINGER**

(Sobbing)  
Thank you. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**NICKY**

It's what you want?

**GINGER**

Yeah. Uh-huh -

NICKY interrupts and kisses her. She kisses him back. He pushes her head down to his lap.