## GHOST

## INT. LOFT - THE SAME NIGHT

Molly, in a short terrycloth robe, is sitting in a chair. A magazine is on her lap but she is staring vacantly into the loft. She seems lost in the vast space. Suddenly there is a KNOCK. Molly jumps.

> MOLLY Who's there?

CARL It's Carl, Moll.

Molly opens the door. Carl seems buoyant, almost celebratory. He has a bag of fruit in his hand. He is still in a suit and tie.

## CARL

Hi.

MOLLY Hey.

> CARL I know it's late. I'm sorry to disturb you. I felt bad about last night. This supernatural stuff just makes me so uncomfortable. I don't even read horoscopes.

MOLLY Don't worry. It's okay.

CARL No, it's not. You needed me to hear you and I didn't and that was wrong. It's just... I want you to know that I'm your friend, Moll.

MOLLY

Thanks, Carl. That really means a lot to me.

CARL (holding out a paper bag) Hey, I brought you some Japanese apple pears. I know you like them.

MOLLY (taking the bag) Oh, that's so sweet.

CARL Listen, can I come in for a minute? I won't stay long. I've had one of those days. Maybe some coffee?

MOLLY (hesitating) Sure.

**INT. LIVINGROOM - NIGHT** 

Carl, in shirt sleeves and Molly in her robe, are sitting on the couch drinking coffee.

> MOLLY You seem a little tense, are you ok?

CARL No, I'm fine. It's just... What can I tell you. It's been tough. Hell, you know. It just still hurts so much.

Then on top of it all... it's stuff at work. They've given me my own accounts, which is good but I've had no time to adjust, kind of absorb everything. It's no big deal. Yeah. Can I have just a little more cream?

## MOLLY

Yeah.

Molly moves to get the cream and Carl spills his drink on his shirt. During the following Molly gets a towel as Carl removes his shirt, they remove the stain with water from the sink then Molly goes and gets one of Sam's shirts. CARL Oh, shit. Jesus. I can't believe I did that.

MOLLY Are you all right?

CARL Yeah, I'm fine. Oh, god.

MOLLY Let me throw that in the washer.

CARL Don't worry about it. It's ok. It's just...

MOLLY You want another shirt?

CARL No. It's dry. It'll just take a minute.

MOLLY There you go.

Molly reaches out and pats his arm. There is an awkward pause.

CARL Where were you this morning? I thought you were coming to the bank to sign those papers.

MOLLY I didn't have time. (beat) I went to the police, Carl.

CARL You're kidding. You did? Wow. I don't believe... What did you tell them? What did they say?

MOLLY

You were right, you know. I felt like such a fool. They brought out a file on this woman ten inches thick. It was awful.

CARL A ripoff artist, huh?

MOLLY You know, the sad thing... is that I believed her.

CARL Sometimes we need to believe.

MOLLY Why? What's the point? I was a fool. I don't believe anything anymore. Why would people do such things?

CARL It's hard to face reality, Moll, you've got to give yourself that. What you have to remember is the love you felt. That's what's real. You have to remember how good Sam was. You were everything to him, Molly. You were his life.

Molly holds back tears. Carl reaches out tenderly and strokes her hair.

MOLLY (finally crying) I feel so alone.

CARL You're not alone. OK? You're young. You've got your work, you're incredibly talented. You're fantastically gorgeous.

MOLLY Oh God, I don't know what's real anymore. I don't know what to think.

CARL Just think about Sam. Think about The time you had together how wonderful that was.

Carl glides his hand slowly, lovingly across her cheek.

CARL (continuing) Let your feelings out, Moll. It's OK.

Almost imperceptibly, his hand moves down to the nape of her neck. As she moves, her robe opens slightly. Carl notices.

CARL (continuing) Life turns on a dime, you know? People think they have forever, that they'll always have tomorrow. But that's not true. Sam taught us that. You have to live for now, for today.

Molly can barely contain her tears. Carl moves toward her moist cheeks and kisses them gently. Slowly, he guides his lips to her neck and kisses it, too. It is all hateful and sensual at the same time.

Molly feels Carl's tenderness, needs it. She does not notice his hand reaching for the cord on her robe and slowly pulling it toward him. With a little tug the cord unravels and the robe falls open. Molly is confused, aroused, not sure what to do. She starts to pull it closed. He holds her hand. For a moment they do nothing. Then his fingers reach for her thigh. Her body quivers. Carl feels her openness and pulls closer, his hand rising gently up her naked body.

Molly's eyes close. She says nothing.

A framed photograph of Sam and Molly that's sitting on an end table CRASHES to the floor.

Molly jumps up, the mood suddenly broken. She sees the photo and recoils. Carl reaches for her. She backs away.

Molly looks at Carl, drying her tears.

MOLLY I can't. I'm sorry. CARL It's okay.

MOLLY I-I can't. It's just too soon...

CARL Sure. It's okay.

MOLLY You've been great Carl, but... I need you to leave. Please. I need you to.

CARL I understand totally. I really do.

MOLLY Please.

CARL Could we just have dinner tomorrow night? Just talk. Can I interest you in that?

MOLLY Yeah.. Sure...

SAM Great.