

SCENE I

A MASTER BEDROOM IN THE HOUSE OF MIDDLE-AGED COUPLE CALLIE AND OMAR ON A FRIDAY MORNING

Omar is getting ready for work, straightening his tie in the mirror. Callie, also getting ready, is looking all around for her favorite shoes. *Eye of the Tiger* softly plays in the background.

CALLIE

Ome, have you seen my sling backs?
(looks at her phone)
Shit, I'm going to be late.

OMAR

(quietly singing the words to Eye of the Tiger, fixing himself in mirror)

CALLIE

Ome? Omar?

OMAR

(doing actors' mouth exercises)
Hmm? What?

CALLIE

(frustrated)
Over here, the brunette? Have you seen my heels?

OMAR

Nope.

CALLIE

(stares at him)
What did I just say?

OMAR

Hmm? No, I haven't seen your heels.

CALLIE

Ah. Well, have you seen my

stegosaurus eggs, you know the speckled ones? Could have sworn I left them soaking in mayonnaise...

OMAR

(still adjusting his outfit in the mirror)

No, hun.

Crosses to her, gives her a kiss on the cheek

OMAR

I'm sorry, honey, I need to roll or I'm going to be late for court.

Omar turns to leave.

CALLIE

Alexa, turn off the music!

(music off)

OMAR!

OMAR

(stops)

What is it?

CALLIE

You haven't listened to anything I've said this morning. Are you aware that I'm even in the goddamn room?

OMAR

(exasperated, a little annoyed)

Hun, I'm sorry, I have this big case wrapping up today and I'm just preoccup--

CALLIE

There's always a big case.

OMAR

Well, I mean, I'm a lawyer, so if I'm lucky, then, yes, there's

always a big case.

CALLIE

Oh really? Is that how it works at your big job building?

OMAR

Callie, I've got a lot on my mind this morning. Didn't you hear? It's an *Eye of the Tiger* morning?

CALLIE

Didn't you hear me looking for my shoe?

OMAR

Callie, the judge on this case is a polyp. If he rejects another one of my motions ...

CALLIE

A polyp?

OMAR

Yeah, he's way up my ass.

CALLIE

Gross, Ome.

OMAR

A gross injustice, to be sure. So, sorry, I don't have the bandwidth to join your sling-back scavenger hunt. Did you check the closet?

CALLIE

(snaps)

Of course I checked the closet

OMAR

Just a suggestion

CALLIE

Obviously I looked where shoes are generally kept, Omar

OMAR

Okay, well, did you look in the

fridge,
 (looks at watch)
damn...

 CALLIE
 (looks up at ceiling)
Oh my God

 OMAR
What?

 CALLIE
Oh my God

 OMAR
...

 CALLIE
 (finds shoe under bed)
Ah ha!

 OMAR
You did leave your diva cup in the
freezer once...

 CALLIE
 (throws shoe at Omar)

 OMAR
Ow! What's that for?

 CALLIE
You don't know what today is!
You've already forgotten what
today is!

 OMAR
...

 CALLIE
Omar! I'm meeting my dad this
morning!
 (beat)
For the first time since I was a
kid
 (how could you forget)?
Oh. My. God.

OMAR

Oh shit.

CALLIE

Wow.

OMAR

I'm sorry, honey...

CALLIE

Just woooooow.

OMAR

Cal, I'm really sorry. I completely...

CALLIE

Forgot. Yes, I know. Didn't hear me. Yes, I know. Everything I say goes in one oversized ear and out the other. Yes, I know!

OMAR

(turns to mirror and puts hand to ear as if shocked that she thinks he has big ears)

CALLIE

I'm so tired of not being...you know what? I'm done. Yeah, I've been thinking about this for a long time...

OMAR

Callie, can we talk about this later, I don't want us making any rash decisions.

CALLIE

I just said I've been thinking about it for a long time. That's like the opposite of rash.

OMAR

Oh, well, let the record show,
(turns to Callie, she

rolls her eyes)
that it goes both ways, babe. It's
not like you're doing *all* the
listening.

CALLIE
Yes, I am!

OMAR
And you always argue with
everything I say--

CALLIE
No I don't!

OMAR
(exasperated)
Cal! What's my big case...that I'm
now...
(checks watch)
running late for?

CALLIE
...

OMAR
Today...what's today about?

CALLIE
I forgot. I'm sorry. Who's your
big client?

OMAR
My celebrity Fruit of the Loom
case? My client is Leaf. Remember?
He's suing the other Fruit of the
Loom Guys for conspiracy.

CALLIE
You're not defending Purple Grape?

OMAR
(frustrated)
Why does everyone ask that?

CALLIE
Cuz he's the best

OMAR

Why does everyone say that?!
The Grape gets all the press.

CALLIE

Well I didn't mean to stomp on
your parade!

OMAR

Ugh, that one died on the vine

CALLIE

Ome, no one gives a damn about a
'leaf'. I thought they were all
supposed to be fruit anyway.

OMAR

They're fruit or fruit-adjacent!

CALLIE

I guarantee you the moment you
tell someone that your client is
the Fruit of the Loom Guy,
everyone's going to think it's
Purple Grape – *MAYBE* Red Apple
– and when they find out it's a
fucking leaf, they're going to be
crushed.

(beat)

OMAR

(looks incredulously at
Callie)

CALLIE

They're gonna be raisin hell?

OMAR

Better

CALLIE

I'm just saying, I read the brief
you left on the kitchen counter
and if you screw this up, that
Leaf is gonna fall.

OMAR

Well, look who's finally taking an interest in my briefs.

CALLIE

Omar, I'm on my way to meeting my estranged biological father for the first time in forever over coffee and scones at Pearl's and I'm a little--

OMAR

Woah, woah, woah! You're meeting him at Pearl's? No, no, you should go to Grinder's Keepers. Best scones in...

CALLIE

It's on the other side of town. And, no one meets their estranged biological father for the first time in forever at a place with the word "*Grinder*" in it

OMAR

...Good scones though...

CALLIE

You know what? If I don't say this now, I never will. I can't do this anymore, Omar. I can't exist in this marriage with you. where my needs aren't being met and my words aren't being heard.

OMAR

Let's talk toni...

CALLIE

No, now. I think we should...

OMAR

Cal, please...don't...

CALLIE

I've just been fighting this for a long time but I don't see another

way...

OMAR

Honey, please we're not at that point...

CALLIE

...for the sake of our relationship, I think we should ...

OMAR

We...should?

CALLIE

...bring in someone else.

OMAR

(three beats)

(puts briefcase down,
sits at end of bed)

Wait, what?

CALLIE

I want to be heard and this
(motions hands between
them)
is just not working and I think
the only thing left to do is see
if another person...

OMAR

(leaps up, grabs her
shoulders)

Callie, honey, that's a fantastic
idea! I think we should totally
bring in someone else.

CALLIE

Wha-You do?

OMAR

And I know just the person

CALLIE

You do?

OMAR

Oh, yes, Becky, from work.

CALLIE

(like it's offensive just
to say her name)

Becky?

OMAR

Yes, Becky. I've told you about
her.

CALLIE

(like it's offensive just
to say her name)

Becky?

OMAR

She's perfect...

CALLIE

Oh my God you've been thinking
about Becky at work? And she's
"perfect?"

OMAR

Not only that, she and I talk
about it all the time!

CALLIE

You do?

OMAR

Yup, and she's so onboard.

CALLIE

You talk about us? With your co-
worker? Where? At the goddamn
water cooler? About bringing her
into our marriage?

OMAR

By the Keurig, actually, but
yes---

CALLIE

About bringing her into our

marriage though?!

OMAR

Oh, yeah, she's ready and willing...

CALLIE

I don't...even know what to say...

OMAR

How about, "Thanks Omar, for hearing my words and needs. Gosh, you really are a model husband."

CALLIE

(gives him a glare)

OMAR

(holds open his ear)
It's almost like I WAS listening all this time

CALLIE

(grabs his other ear)
Almost...

OMAR

(breaking free)
But what about me? What about my needs?

CALLIE

OK, fine, but *Becky*?

OMAR

What's wrong with her name? You haven't even met her!

CALLIE

How did you meet her? On your Tik-Tok account?

OMAR

I told you I work with--

CALLIE

Ugh, I heard you!

OMAR

Well that's a first!

CALLIE

Okay...well...what's she like?

OMAR

She's competent

CALLIE

Competent?

OMAR

Hardworking

CALLIE

I don't need her resume, Omar!

OMAR

Don't you want to hear about her strengths and weaknesses?

CALLIE

Omar!

OMAR

Or her 5-year plan?

CALLIE

(glares)

OMAR

OK, OK! Look, you go, Cal. Have a meaningful reunion with your father. Tell him I can't wait to meet him. Then, maybe tonight I'll bring Becky around and we can, you know...see what happens.

CALLIE

Tonight? You're bringing Becky here tonight? Shouldn't we discuss this more?

OMAR

What's there to discuss? She'll be so excited. And, I think you will be, too.

(looks to ALEXA)
Alexa, what's the traffic looking like?

ALEXA
Traffic on the I-40 is moving at a good pace with only one accident reported. Leave now or risk aggravating your polyp.

OMAR
Right. Thank you, Alexa.

ALEXA
You're welcome, Omar.

CALLIE
I mean, your whole attitude about this is...I mean what does she even look like?

OMAR
I don't know? What does it matter? She's nice lookin'

CALLIE
Nice lookin'? Toyotas are 'nice lookin'.

OMAR
I love you
(kisses her)

CALLIE
Toyotas are a-door-able

OMAR
(Cringes)

CALLIE
(looks away in shame)
Best I could do...

OMAR
You better quit now, you're running on fumes

CALLIE
(does the hand waffle)
That's pretty good...

OMAR
(checks his watch, begins
to exit)
Well, I better put it into gear...

CALLIE
(had enough)
Alright, Ome. Dead horse.

OMAR
I'll be home later tonight and
we'll explore all the
possibilities.
(crosses back & kisses
CALLIE)
Oh and, after your meeting, would
you mind please running to the
store and getting some Chardonnay?

CALLIE
Chardonnay?

OMAR
Becky likes Chardonnays.

CALLIE
(turns away)
Becky likes Chardonnays...

OMAR
Love you
(exits)

CALLIE
Love...you too...
(she begins to follow
Omar out the door then
beat, then walks back
in)

CALLIE
Alexa, cut the lights.