# THE HONEYBEE

PILOT "Serenity"

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#### COLD OPEN.

EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

CARS ENTER THE PARKING LOT AND LINE UP IN THE "BEHIND THE WHEEL" DRIVER'S EXAM LANE.

#### INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

OPEN ON WORK BEST FRIENDS <u>COCO CRAWFORD</u> AND <u>ZOOEY WALKER</u>,
BOTH 40S, BLACK. COCO IS A SECRET SOFTIE IN A HARD ASS SHELL,
FULL FIGURED WITH LONG BRAIDS. HER OPPOSITE, ZOOEY IS A DITZY
DIVA, FABULOUS IN EVERY WAY; *TODAY'S* WIG IS A BURGUNDY BOB.

THEY GAZE OUT A LONG TINTED WINDOW. THEY CAN SEE OUT, OUTSIDE CAN'T SEE IN. BORED, THEY COUNT THE CARS PULLING INTO THE EXAM LANE.

COCO

Prius.

ZOOEY

Prius.

COCO

Honda.

ZOOEY

Prius.

THEY BOTH PERK UP.

COCO & ZOOEY

MUSTANG!

COCO ZOOEY

It's mine!

He's mine!

COCO (CONT'D)

A. You haven't seen him! And B. You don't KNOW it's a HE!

DRIVERS TURN OFF ENGINES, ROLL DOWN WINDOWS.

ZOOEY

Yum. That one's gotta be ALL MAN. (craning for a glimpse of the MUSTANG DRIVER)

Come on, big bucks, no whammies.

PRIUS DRIVER 3 STEPS OUT OF HIS CAR FOR A SMOKE, HE'S A BALDING AVERAGE JOE IN HIS 50S.

There, take that sugar daddy.

ZOOEY

Vanilla. I need a snack with flavor!

COCO

You've tried all 31 flavors at least 31 times and still can't pick a favorite. Vanilla could be a keeper.

(beat)

You know what's gonna happen if you don't let me take the Mustang.

ZOOEY

Whatcha gonna do, Coco? Huh? Wha. Cha. Gon. Na. Do?

ZOOEY SQUARES OFF, TO GET IN COCO'S FACE. TODAY IS THE DAY SHE WILL STAND UP TO COCO.

COCO

You. Don't. Want. To. Know.

ZOOEY

I do.

ZOOEY HOLDS HER GROUND, COCO INCHES IN TO TAKE IT.

COCO

Nah, you don't.

ZOOEY

Uh-huh.

COCO GETS RIGHT UP IN ZOOEY'S FACE WITH BIG INTENSE EYES.

COCO

You. Do. Not.

ZOOEY'S NO MATCH FOR COCO'S DOMINANCE. SHE BACKS DOWN.

ZOOEY

Dang it! I don't wanna know. How do you do that?

COCO

It' a gift.

MUSTANG DRIVER EXITS CAR. THEY WHIP BACK FOR A LOOK. 30S-50S, IN A BLACK BIKER JACKET AND BOOTS, THIS DRIVER IS QUITE MASCULINE BUT STILL VERY MUCH A FEMALE.

ZOOEY

**Not** what I expected. But, hey, I'll try anything once. Hello Flavor 32.

COCO

You stay away from my Mustang!

THEY FACE OFF AGAIN. ENTER, SUPERVISOR <u>CARL KANE</u>, 50S-60S, WASHED UP ALL-AMERICAN D-BAG.

CARL

Ladies! If you're gonna fight in the office, at least make it interesting. Where's the Jello?

COCO

Where's HR?

CARL

I kid, Coco. Must we always call HR? Aren't we all friends here?

COCO

Don't say it!

CARL

Can't we all--

COCO

Don't you say it!

CARL

--just get along?

COCO & ZOOEY

He said it.

THE GALS REALLY DO LOVE EACH OTHER. NOTHING BONDS THEM MORE THAN THEIR DISGUST/DISTRUST FOR CARL.

CARL

100 confirmed appointments today!

ENTER FELLOW EXAMINERS <u>JULIE</u>, 50S, WHITE, ALMOST A HIPPIE, AND <u>BYRON</u>, 30S, ALMOST A HIPSTER.

BYRON

100?!? We can't complete that many.

CARL

You can and you will.

THE CREW ARMORS UP WITH CLIPBOARDS AND PENCILS.

JULTE

Wow, so many souls starting a new chapter of independence.

COCO

So many idiots starting mayhem on the streets.

ZOOEY

Seriously, Carl. I may be amazing, but I ain't no superhero.

CARL

We have no choice. We are the DMV. We have a duty to perform--

COCO AND THE GANG ALL ROLL THEIR EYES, GROAN, GAG, ETC.

CARL (CONT'D)

You know...the quicker you get out--

COCO

-- the quicker you get back!

SHE DARTS OUT THE DOOR, ZOOEY HOT ON HER TAIL.

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

COCO BLAZES AHEAD OF ZOOEY TO THE FIRST PRIUS IN LINE.

COCO

Don't be a princess, don't be a--

IT'S A PERFECT 16 YEAR OLD PRIVILEGED <u>PRINCESS</u>, FACE DEEP IN HER PHONE. COCO WAITS FOR HER TO LOOK UP. BEAT. BEAT.

COCO (CONT'D)

Nick Jonas.

**PRINCESS** 

Where?

(looks up, sees Coco and YELPS! Drops phone.) It's you! The nightmare!

COCO

Excuse me?

PRINCESS

Nothing! Nothing. I said nothing!

SHE SCRAMBLES TO FIND HER PHONE ON THE FLOOR. COCO WAITS.

When you're ready. Without touching anything, point to your headlights.

BEHIND HER, ZOOEY IS ALREADY INSPECTING REAR BRAKE LIGHTS.

COCO SPEEDS UP, RACING ZOOEY, DETERMINED TO BE THE FIRST ONE BACK TO GET THE MUSTANG. THE RACE GETS SILLY, BUT COCO ZIPS THROUGH IT AND HOPS IN PRINCESS'S CAR.

#### INT./EXT. PRINCESS'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

SLAMMING DOOR, SHE SWIPES PRINCESS'S PAPERWORK OFF THE DASH.

COCO

Drive, Princess, drive!

**PRINCESS** 

OMG, what?

COCO

(referencing paperwork)
Uhh, yes, Madison, pull out at a reasonable pace, then turn right.
And, put the dang phone down!

PRINCESS

Yeah! Totally! Let's do this!

PRINCESS SHIFTS IN TO DRIVE. SHE IS OVERLY NERVOUS AND TERRIFIED OF COCO, WHO MAKES NOTES. EVEN THE SOUND OF HER PENCIL SCRATCHING IS HARSH AND CRITICAL.

PRINCESS MAKES A JERKY EXIT OUT OF THE LOT. SHE STOPS AT A STOP SIGN, HER HAND REFLEXIVELY REACHING FOR HER PHONE. COCO THROWS A LOOK. PRINCESS FREEZES, THEN DRIVES ON.

COCO

Continue through the next light.

PRINCESS STOPS AT A RED LIGHT. BEAT. WITHOUT THOUGHT, SHE PICKS UP HER PHONE. COCO SLAPS IT OUT OF HER HAND.

COCO (CONT'D)

You. Do. Not. Pass!

PRINCESS

WHAAAT???

COCO

Critical FAIL. Take the next right and return to the lot.

PRINCESS

But, it's a red light!

COCO

That don't make a snake's ass bit a' difference. No phones!

THE LIGHT CHANGES. PRINCESS BURSTS INTO TEARS.

COCO (CONT'D)

Don't be drivin' and cryin' either. Careful now. Get in the right lane.

HICCUPING, PRINCESS CROSSES THE INTERSECTION, SIGNALS AND PULLS INTO THE RIGHT LANE, WITHOUT CHECKING HER BLIND SPOT.

COCO (CONT'D)

Lord. You already failed once, but that's a second critical fail.

PRINCESS POUNDS ON THE STEERING WHEEL.

**PRINCESS** 

You're killing my sweet 16! This should be the best day of my life!

COCO

Let's hope *this* is as bad as it gets. Turn right, please.

STILL SOBBING, PRINCESS MAKES THE TURN.

COCO (CONT'D)

Right again, then park in the lot. (checks her watch)
That may be a record, 92 seconds.

**PRINCESS** 

You ARE the nightmare!

COCO

Excuse you?

PRINCESS PARKS AND TURNS OFF HER ENGINE.

PRINCESS

"The Nightmare on DMV Street!"
Everyone knows you just hate kids.

COCO

That's a lie.

PRINCESS

Everyone knows you never pass us!

Here's what *I* know. Driving rocks. It's pure freedom and power. BUT above ALL, driving is a responsibility: to keep yourself and everyone else on the road **SAFE**. It's a *privilege*, NOT a *RIGHT*.

(blank stare from

Princess)

Do you understand the difference?

PRINCESS

I have rights too! MY life matters!

COCO

Unfortunately, also true. Save your life. Don't text and drive.

FLASHES A PSA SMILE (COMPLETE WITH SOUND CUE ) AND EXITS CAR.

## EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

COCO HALTS IN HER TRACKS. THE MUSTANG IS FIRST IN LINE! COCO DOES A HAPPY DANCE AND BOUNCES OVER TO BEGIN INSPECTION. SHE LAYS A HAND ON THE CAR, ADMIRING THE BUILD AND PAINT JOB.

COCO

Almost as pretty as a Honeybee.

COCO'S OWN PHONE RINGS, THE CUSTOM RINGTONE IS A CHILD'S VOICE, "AUNTIE! AUNTIE! AUNTIE!" SHE ANSWERS.

COCO (CONT'D)

Baby, what's wrong? This better be an emergency.

## INT. COCO'S HOUSE, KITCHEN -- CONTINUOUS

COCO'S NIECE, <u>LAYLA</u>, 12, IS ON THE PHONE. WEARING A HARRY POTTER RAVENCLAW TEE AND JEAN SHORTS, SHE'S SMART, SASSY, A LITTLE NERDY AND PUBERTY AWKWARD.

LAYLA

(low voice)

It is. Mama's out of rehab. She's here at the house.

SHE LOOKS AT HER MOM, COCO'S SISTER **DAHLIA**, 38-40, BLACK, "SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS" GRADUATE WITH SHORT GRACE JONES HAIR. HER WEATHERED FACE CRIES YEARS OF ADDICTION AND HER ATHLETIC BUILD HINTS AT A ONE-TIME BOXER GONE A LITTLE FLABBY.

DAHLIA HUGS HER OLDER DAUGHTER, <u>ALI</u>, 14, ANXIOUSLY WOUND UP LIKE A GUITAR STRING ABOUT TO SNAP, SHE'S EXTRA STYLISH WITH A QUIRKY HAIR CLIP. DAHLIA SQUEEZES HER SUFFOCATINGLY CLOSE. ALI SNEAKS AN ASTHMA INHALER PUFF BEHIND HER MOM'S BACK.

<u>VIOLA</u>, 60S, THE GRAND-MATRIARCH, HOVERS. AN OLD SCHOOL COOL AND CLASSY WORKING WOMAN ENJOYING RETIREMENT, HER WIDE APPROVING SMILE REVEALS MISGUIDED ENABLING OF ADDICT DAHLIA.

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. - DAY

COCO STEADIES HERSELF AGAINST THE MUSTANG.

COCO

She in MY house?!?

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, KITCHEN -- DAY

LAYLA

She says we're moving in with her.

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

OVERCOME, COCO OPENS THE MUSTANG DOOR, SITS DOWN.

COCO

Like hell you are. I'll handle it.
 (Hangs up)

That heffa showing up unannounced startin' some mess. She thinks she can box? Get ready for a knock out.

MUSTANG DRIVER LOOKS ON, CONFUSED AS HELL.

MUSTANG DRIVER

Umm, hello?

COCO

I'll be with you in a minute. K! O!

SHE PUNCHES AT THE AIR.

## END COLD OPEN.

#### ACT ONE

#### INT. THE MUSTANG -- MOMENTS LATER

MUSTANG DRIVER (AN IMMIGRANT WITH A STRONG ACCENT) AND COCO DRIVE IN SILENCE FOR A FEW BEATS.

COCO

Left turn at the next corner, then right on Baxter.

MUSTANG DRIVER

I didn't know the test was so long.

COCO MAKES NOTES, SNEAKS A TEXT TO LAYLA. MUSTANG DRIVER SNEAKS A GLANCE AT COCO. SHE RETURNS A SHUT DOWN LOOK.

COCO

I give a comprehensive test.

MUSTANG DRIVER

It's just, we're kinda far from--.

COCO

I'll ask the questions. Turn right.

SHE SNEAKS A LOOK AT LAYLA'S RESPONSE.

MUSTANG DRIVER

Are you supposed to be texting?

COCO

Are my hands on the wheel? My foot on the gas? Parallel park! Here!

MUSTANG DRIVER PERFORMS AN EXCELLENT PARKING JOB.

COCO (CONT'D)

Well done. You may turn off your engine. Excuse me.

SHE QUICKLY EXITS CAR, LEAVING MUSTANG DRIVER BAFFLED.

## INT. COCO'S HOUSE, KITCHEN -- CONTINUOUS

COCO BURSTS INTO KITCHEN. DAHLIA, LAYLA AND ALI JUMP UP FROM THE BREAKFAST TABLE. VIOLA STAYS SEATED, ROLLING HER EYES.

VIOLA

Always one to make an entrance.

LAYLA & ALI SIT BACK DOWN AS COCO MARCHES UP TO DAHLIA.

You come up in here, surprise everybody like some happy reunion. You do it behind my back. You think you're gonna pull one on me? Mama did you know about this?

VIOLA

I got a call last night.

COCO

Thanks for the heads up.

DAHLIA

I asked her not to say anything.

COCO

Cuz you being sneaky.

DAHLIA

No need for name calling.

DAHLIA TRIES TO STAND TOE TO TOE WITH COCO, BUT LIKE ZOOEY BEFORE, IT'S NOT LONG BEFORE SHE BACKS DOWN.

LAYLA

Auntie.

COCO

Hush. You left, Dahlia. You were out in that life and left them here. With me. Cuz that's what you always do. You mess up and I clean it up. Not today. They're mine now and I'mma do what's best for them.

LAYLA

Auntie!

COCO

I have the court papers. Take them today, it's kidnapping. Kidnapping! Add that to your list of charges! I'll call the cops **SOOO DANG-**-

LAYLA

AUNTTE!

COCO

WHAT?!?

LAYLA

Relax. Nobody said today.

What?

DAHLIA

I'm not taking them today.

COCO

You're not taking them any day. Not today. Not ever!

DAHLIA

Never say never.

COCO

I did and I will. Never. Not ever.

VIOLA

Coco. Come on now.

COCO

Hell nah, Ma! Ya can't believe her!

VIOLA

This yelling isn't good for anyone.

SHE LOOKS TO ALI, INHALING DEEPLY ON AN ASTHMA INHALER.

ALI

I'm fine. I am. Totally.

COCO COLLAPSES IN A CHAIR NEXT TO ALI, TAKES HER HAND.

COCO

I'm sorry, my girl.

ALI

I'm fine. Really.

DAHLIA

I'm here to make amends, Coco. I'm sorry for any burdens I put on you.

COCO PULLS THE GIRLS IN FOR A HUG.

COCO

Ali and Layla are no one's burdens. They're my greatest joy.

DAHLIA PULLS THE GIRLS BACK TO HER SIDE.

DAHLIA

My girls are my greatest joy too. When I get my own place I'll petition for visitations and then full custody. I have a lawyer. I will get my kids back.

COCO

We'll see about that.

DAHLIA

We will.

COCO

You're not staying here.

DAHLIA

Nope. I'm staying with Mama.

AN EPIC STARE DOWN... OUTSIDE, A CAR HORN BLARES. COCO JUMPS TO HER FEET, BUT DOES NOT BREAK HER STARE, EYES WIDE.

COCO

My ride. Gotta get back to work.

COCO BACKS TOWARD THE DOOR, MAINTAINING HER STARE. DAHLIA RECIPROCATES.

COCO (CONT'D)

Dinner here? You cooking, Ma?

VIOLA

Absolutely! I'll bring over your favorite brisket.

COCO

I'll pick up some potato salad.

 ${\tt CAR}$   ${\tt HORN}$   ${\tt BLASTS}$   ${\tt AGAIN}.$  COCO FUMBLES FOR THE DOORKNOB BEHIND HER, STILL NO BLINKING.

COCO (CONT'D)

Luv ya, girls. Ma. I'll deal with you later, Dahlia.

DAHLIA

Not if I deal with you first.

COCO

Is that a threat?

VIOLA

Girls.

CAR HOOOOORRRNNNN!!! COCO QUICKLY SLIPS OUT THE DOOR, POKES HEAD BACK IN FOR ONE MORE GRIMACE AT HER SISTER.

#### EXT. OUTSIDE COCO'S HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

COCO MARCHES TO THE MUSTANG, PASSING A MOVING TRUCK. **SUSAN**, 30S, WARM & OPEN WITH A REBELLIOUS SPIRIT, COMES DOWN THE LOADING RAMP CARRYING A LARGE, HEAVY BOX. GRAVITY FORCES HER TO ACCELERATE... INTO COCO'S PATH!

LIKE CHANGING LANES ON THE FREEWAY, COCO EXPERTLY VEERS RIGHT TO AVOID A COLLISION.

COCO

Watch the flow of traffic, lady!

SUSAN

Well, hello to you too, neighbor.

COCO

Oh! You moving in to 47?

SUSAN

I am.

CAR HORN BLASTS YET AGAIN. COCO BOLTS TOWARD THE MUSTANG.

COCO

Welcome then! I'll see ya around!

SUSAN

I'll use my blinker next time!

#### INT. THE MUSTANG -- CONTINUOUS

CHUCKLING, COCO JUMPS IN THE MUSTANG.

COCO

Drive, Mustang! Drive!

MUSTANG DRIVER

What the freaking what?

COCO

Please pardon the delay. I needed a rest room and I will not use a government toilet. G'ah! The germs!

MUSTANG DRIVER

Are we done yet?

When we get back. You can take the freeway, if it's moving.

## INT./EXT. THE MUSTANG ON THE FREEWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

WINDOWS DOWN, THE MUSTANG RIDES THE OPEN HIGHWAY. COCO LEANS HER HEAD OUT, WIND ON HER FACE, ALMOST PUPPY-LIKE IN HER JOY.

MUSTANG DRIVER

68.

COCO

Keep going.

MUSTANG DRIVER

69 and a half.

COCO

Go on!

MUSTANG DRIVER

70 miles per hour.

COCO PULLS HER HEAD BACK IN TO CHECK THE SPEEDOMETER.

COCO

Perfect speed limit achieved! You. Have. Passed! As long as you don't screw up royally in the next three quarters of a mile. Next exit.

MUSTANG DRIVER

Yes ma'am!

COCO

Sick ride. What's the power?

MUSTANG DRIVER

5.0 V8, 462 HP.

COCO

Nice. I had a 2001 GT until last year. Only 265 horse, but damn I loved her.

MUSTANG DRIVER

What happened to her?

COCO

Caught the arthritis in my knees. Couldn't work the clutch anymore.

MUSTANG DRIVER

That's tragic.

COCO

Yep. Had to trade her in.

MUSTANG DRIVER

For an automatic Mustang, I hope.

COCO

Ha! I wish.

(quiet beat)

You know the way back to the lot?

MUSTANG DRIVER

Yep. (beat) My first car was my dad's '78 King Cobra. Cherry. Knew then and there at 18 years old, I will always drive a Mustang.

COCO

My first love, a '76 Datsun B210 HoneyBee. 41 highway MPG. In the 70s! 41! Freakin' love that car.

MUSTANG DRIVER

You had a HoneyBee? THE HoneyBee?

COCO

THE Honeybee. Still do.

MUSTANG DRIVER

You're joking.

COCO

In the garage. I'll get it running again someday. Give it to my nieces when they're old enough.

THEY APPROACH THE DMV PARKING LOT.

MUSTANG DRIVER

Whoa. Whoa. Would you ever sell it?

COCO

Hell no! Not for all the gold in Trump's bathroom. Pull in and park.

SHE PARKS. COCO FINISHES HER NOTES AND HANDS OVER PAPERWORK.

COCO (CONT'D)

Excellent driving. Good job.

MUSTANG DRIVER

Thanks! This wasn't bad at all. Real talk. I work with a collector who is obsessed with the B210 HoneyBee. If it's impossible to find, it's a must have. We'll give you a great price.

SHE PULLS OUT A BUSINESS CARD, COCO WAVES IT OFF.

COCO

Thanks. Not interested.

MUSTANG DRIVER

Take it. Please. You never know. Save it for a rainy day.

COCO

Hafta be a Katrina kinda day.

MUSTANG DRIVER

They happen.

COCO

Nah, nah, nah. I'm good.

MUSTANG DRIVER

Toss the card when I leave if you have to, but, I have to try. If I bring my boss a HoneyBee? Honey. I'll be Employee of the Century.

COCO

Cute. I hate to disappoint, nah, don't care really. Either way, never gonna happen.

MUSTANG DRIVER

Never say never.

COCO

(exiting the car)
I just did. Thanks Mustang.

MUSTANG DRIVER

The name's Alice.

COCO

Nah. Mustang's better.

SHE WINKS (WITH A SPARKLE & SOUND CUE) THEN MOVES ON.

END ACT ONE

#### ACT TWO

#### INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE - DAY

COCO TAKES A SEAT WITH HER PHONE. CARL IS HOT ON HER TAIL.

CARL

Forty-eight minutes! You were gone forty-eight minutes!

COCO

Say it again, Carl. I didn't hear you the first time.

CARL

You were gone forty--

COCO

Eight minutes. Yeah. I heard you the first time.

COCO TEXTS THE KIDS.

CARL

What're ya doin'?

COCO

I'm taking a break.

CARL

Do I have to state the obvious?

COCO

You sure do like to, so, I won't stop you.

CARL

You have completed 2 exams. It is 10:00. We have 90 more to go today!

COCO

We'll get it done. I just need ONE minute. 60 seconds of peace and quiet and nobody yappin', or tweetin', or askin' me for money, or gettin' in my face. Can I please have ONE. STINKIN'. MINUTE?!?!?

SUFFICIENTLY SUBDUED, CARL BOOKS IT OUT THE DOOR.

COCO (CONT'D)

Thank you.

SHE TAKES 3 DEEP BREATHS. ON 3RD EXHALE, SHE BREAKS, THEN ADDRESSES THE WALL, PRACTICING HER SPEECH AND SOBBING.

COCO (CONT'D)

Dammit, Dahlia! NO. You're not doin' this again. Not givin' them hope then breakin' their hearts.

ON THE WALL, A GIANT DIGITAL CLOCK MARKS THE SECONDS.

COCO (CONT'D)

Think you're gonna come up inta' MY house? MY house that Damon and I worked our asses off to get? You gonna come up and try to tell me what's what? Uh uh, no way.

(30 SECONDS PASSED)
You don't get to break 'em more
than they're broken. Layla, so
smart, girl can read anything,
understands everything! Stuff I'll
never get. She'll be fine. But,
Ali. She's so scared. All the time.
She can't be scared of losing you
AGAIN.

THE SECONDS TICK AWAY, 51, 52, 53...

COCO (CONT'D)

G'AAAAAHHHHHHHH...

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

 $\underline{\text{MORE DRIVERS}}$  WAITING FOR TESTS HEAR COCO'S PIERCING WAIL. THE FORCE OF IT RATTLES THE WINDOWS LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE.

## INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

COCO

...AAAHHHH!!!!

CLOCK: 56, 57, 58... COCO PULLS HERSELF TOGETHER.

COCO (CONT'D)

I won't give up my girls.

59, 60. DONE. SHE STANDS AND WALKS TO THE DOOR.

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

COCO NOTES THREE <u>DRIVERS</u> IN LINE HOPPING BACK IN THEIR CARS. THEY PULL OUT, BAILING ON THE TEST.

COCO

Ok, then. 87 to go.

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, LAYLA & ALI'S ROOM -- AFTERNOON

LAYLA BUILDS A ROBOT AT A TINY DESK. ALI STRUGGLES AT KNITTING A SWEATER.

ATıT

Two weeks. I give it two weeks.

LAYLA

Til Mama leaves or gets kicked out?

ATıT

Layla! Two weeks to finish this sweater. I'm not spending my whole summer doing this. I thought I wanted an Etsy store but maybe I'll just sell on Depop.

LAYLA

Whatever. I still don't think Mama's gonna make it.

ALI

You wanna put some money on that?

LAYLA SPRINGS INTO ACTION, PULLING A TINY JOURNAL FROM A SECRET SPOT, THEN JUMPING ONTO ALI'S BED. THEY HUDDLE CLOSE.

LAYLA

Ok. You said two weeks, now is that on if she leaves or gets kicked out? Cuz that's different.

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

DAHLIA HAPPILY APPROACHES THE GIRL'S ROOM WITH GIFT BAGS. SHE HEARS THEM TALKING, STOPS TO LISTEN.

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, LAYLA & ALI'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

LAYLA

So, how long til she leaves?

ATıT

Mama looks good. She seems like she's actually sober, so, I think she's gonna try to hold on to it for awhile.

LAYLA

That's a factor. Let's add relapse.

ALI

Ok. Relapse. Leave. Get kicked out. 6 weeks. 6 months. 2 years.

TIAYTIA

You know Gramma will enable forever. It could be longer before she *really* gets kicked out.

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

DEFEATED, DAHLIA LEAVES WITHOUT TALKING TO HER GIRLS.

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, LAYLA & ALI'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

LAYLA

That's assuming she stays with Gramma. In her own place, I put that eviction at a year, max.

ALI

I'll take 13 months.

LAYLA

Ok, so, I'm down for 3 weeks, 3 months and 12 months.

THEY LOOK AT LAYLA'S NOTES, THEN AT EACH OTHER.

ALI

I hope we're wrong.

LAYLA

Yep.

THEY THROW THEIR ARMS AROUND EACH OTHER TO HUG IT ALL AWAY.

#### INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE -- LATER THAT AFTERNOON

JULIE AND BYRON EAT LUNCH. COCO ENTERS, BEE-LINING TO A COFFEE POT TO FILL A TRAVEL MUG AND MUTTERING TO HERSELF, WHILE ON HOLD ON HER CELL PHONE.

Freakin' stupid lawyers, can't afford a good song.

BYRON AND JULIE EXCHANGE A LOOK.

BYRON

(whisper)

She done lost it now.

JULIE

Be nice.

COCO POWERS BACK OUT, NOT NOTICING THEM AND STILL MUTTERING ABOUT THE HOLD MUSIC.

BYRON

How long you think before she plows a car right through these walls?

JULIE

As one who strives for impeccable, gossip free speech and only giving power to truth and compassion above all else, I think it's only safe to say... could be any day now.

BYRON

I need a new job.

END ACT TWO.

#### ACT THREE

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, KITCHEN -- AFTERNOON

DAHLIA HELPS HER MOTHER PREPARE DINNER.

DAHLIA

Do you believe I can do it this time, Mama?

VIOLA

I've always known you can do anything you set your mind to. When you started boxing, you were like a duck to water. You're my oldest girl and you've got a spark. Coco, she's got fire. It can burn. You? You've got spark.

DAHLIA

Whatever that means. You're too easy on me, Mama. I won't make it if you let me slide.

VIOLA

Why should I be hard on you? Life is hard enough. Plenty of things beatin' us down every day. If I can make it easy on my babies, I will.

DAHLIA

This time has to be different.

VIOLA

I'm too old to be different.

DAHLIA

You are barely 65! You've got plenty of fire & spark left. I need you to swear you'll kick my ass if I step out of line. Take a switch and beat me if you have to.

VIOLA

Thinnest switch I can find.

DAHLIA

Don't go wildin' out, now! That spoon will do.

VIOLA

Hush up now, girl!

DAHTITA

The girls made a bet that I won't last a week. I gotta do better.

VIOLA PUTS HER ARMS AROUND HER DAUGHTER.

VIOLA

They don't know no better. Alright now, whatever you need, honey. I'll help you. If I see you with a drink or a drug in your hand, I'll slap some of that black off you and throw you up outta here.

DAHLIA

Thank you, Mama. I think.

#### INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE

CARL REVIEWS THE DAY'S EXAMS.

CARL

Ninety three completed. Ninety three? How's that? We had a hundred.

COCO

Couple people mighta gotten scared.

FLASHBACK TO:

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES - AFTERNOON

COCO EXITS A RETURNING VEHICLE, SHOUTING...

COCO

You. Do. NOT. PASS!

THE TEENAGE GIRL IN THE CAR CRIES INCESSANTLY.

IN LINE FOR THE EXAM, <u>A TEENAGE BOY</u> SEES COCO APPROACHING. HE DIVES BACK INTO HIS CAR AND PEELS OUT, JUST IN TIME TO ESCAPE "THE NIGHTMARE ON DMV STREET". <u>HIS PARENTS</u> CHASE AFTER HIS CAR, YELLING IN PANIC.

#### INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE - DAY

CARL

I get a couple people running from Coco, but seven?

ZOOEY

People get scared for all kinds of reasons.

FLASHBACK TO:

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

ZOOEY APPROACHES A <u>SUPER HOTTIE</u>, LATE 20S, JAMAICAN, WAITING BY A FIRE RED MASERATI. SHE RECOGNIZES HIM, LEANS ON THE CAR WITH HER BEST SEDUCTION POSE. HE LOOKS UP FROM HIS PHONE.

ZOOEY

(dripping sexy)
Hello again, Michael.

SUPER HOTTIE

(confused)

Have we met?

ZOOEY

Dinner last week at Wi Jammin'? You might remember Wanda? My blue wig.

SHE GIVES A SASSY HEAD TOSS.

SUPER HOTTIE

Oh! Yes, yes, hi. I, uh, I just found out my mom is sick! In the hospital! Colitis hepatitis exfoliate-itis. I-I-I-gotta go!

HE JUMPS IN HIS CAR AND ZOOMS OUT.

BACK TO:

## INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

ZOOEY

Guess that's what you get for sharing your pimple popper fetish on the first date.

EVERYONE REACTS IN THEIR OWN WAY. BEAT. BYRON GROOMS HIS HIPSTER STACHE.

BYRON

My guy takes all the cakes and the icing.

FLASHBACK TO:

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

BYRON GETS IN A CAR WITH TERRIFIED DRIVER.

BYRON

Ok, you're gonna make a right turn at the exit.

TERRIFIED DRIVER

Uh huh. Uh huh. Yep. Yep.

TERRIFIED DRIVER DOESN'T MOVE.

BYRON

Ok. Whenever you're ready.

TERRIFIED DRIVER

Do you mind not talking?

BYRON

Excuse me?

TERRIFIED DRIVER

I can't think and talk and drive at the same time. I haven't driven in 15 years since my dog was killed in a four car pile up. I'm going to my therapist immediately after this to curl in a ball and cry... if I can GET to my therapist's... office...

TERRIFIED DRIVER BEGINS TO HYPERVENTILATE. BYRON SIGHS AND EXITS THE VEHICLE. HE SPOTS JULIE.

BYRON

Can you call 911?

JULIE

Already on their way.

BACK TO:

### INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

JULIE WORKS ON BEADING A DREAM CATCHER.

JULIE

And some just don't make it to the finish line.

FLASHBACK TO:

#### EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

JULIE APPROACHES AN <u>ELDERLY DRIVER</u> AT HIS WINDOW. HIS HEAD IS LEANED BACK AGAINST THE HEADREST.

JULIE

Good afternoon, sir. Can you please point to your flashers? Sir? Flashers?

SHE LEANS IN, LISTENING FOR BREATH. NOPE. HE'S DEAD.

JULIE (CONT'D)

Oh dear. Vaya con dios, brave soul. Go with God to a better plane, amigo. All peace and serenity and you never have to drive again.

BACK TO:

#### INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

CARL

We survived another week! Go team!

HE RAISES HIS HAND FOR A GROUP HIGH FIVE, NO ONE GIVES IT. HE TRIES TO FIST BUMP BYRON, NOPE. GROUP EYE ROLL AND EXIT.

#### EXT. EMPLOYEE PARKING AT THE D.M.V. -- EVENING

COCO LEAVES WORK, WALKS THROUGH EMPLOYEE PARKING. PASSES A COUPLE CARS SHE COVETS. SHE DIGS OUT HER KEYS AND PUSHES THE KEY LOCK. A BEEP FROM THE OLDEST AND SADDEST PRIUS ON SITE.

SHE SIGHS LOUDLY IN RESIGNED FRUSTRATION AND GETS IN.

## INT. COCO'S HOUSE, GARAGE -- NIGHT

COCO PULLS HER PRIUS INTO THE GARAGE NEXT TO THE PRICELESS B210. SHE UNLOADS GROCERY BAGS, PUTS THEM BY KITCHEN DOOR.

SHE TRAILS HER FINGERS LOVINGLY OVER THE DATSUN'S HOOD AND SIDE. SHE OPENS THE DOOR AND SITS INSIDE.

#### INT. INSIDE THE B210 -- CONTINUOUS

WHEN THE DOOR CLOSES, IT'S LIKE WE'VE FLIPPED A SWITCH INTO A TIME WARP OF 70'S DISCO AND SUNSHINE. COCO CLOSES HER EYES, ENJOYING THE SERENITY.

THE PASSENGER DOOR OPENS. IN SLIDES  $\underline{DAMON}$ , LATE 30S, COCO'S HUSBAND, A HANDSOME DEVIL WITH AN ANGELIC SMILE.

DAMON

Hey, Baby.

COCO

Hey, Boo.

DAMON

Rough day?

COCO

Bad baby. Real bad.

DAMON

I know you've seen worse.

COCO

You have to remind me?

DAMON

Cuz I know you is Wonder Woman, mama. You got this. You can get anything.

COCO

You always give me too much credit.

DAMON

(gives her a playful push) Nah! You're a platinum card.

SHE LAUGHS, GIVING IN AND LEANING AGAINST THE DOOR. A MOMENT OF PEACE. SHE CLOSES HER EYES.

THE PASSENGER DOOR OPENS. BEAT. IT CLOSES. ENERGY SHIFT.

COCO OPENS HER EYES. ALI SITS IN THE PASSENGER SEAT. WE ARE BACK TO LIFE. BACK TO REALITY. OUR SEVENTIES SERENITY GONE.

COCO

Hey, girl. What is it?

AT.1

I'm so sorry!

ALI CRIES.

COCO

I swear to all that is holy, no more tears today. Can't. Take. More. Tears.

ALI CRIES HARDER.

ALI

I'm sorry!

COCO

Stop apologizing! What did you do?

ALI

I know when you come and sit in the car, it's cuz you miss him.

COCO

I miss him all the time.

ALI

You sit in here when it's real bad.

COCO

We had great times in this car.

ALI WAILS AGAIN.

COCO (CONT'D)

Stop, honey. Really. No more tears.

ALI

It's just Mama was talkin' 'bout makin' amends and...

COCO

You got nothing to amend.

ALI

If it weren't for me, Damon would be here and you would be happy!

COCO

That is NOT true! Don't you ever think that? Why would you say that?

ALI

I was sick with that earache. He went out to get my medicine. That's why he--didn't--didn't come home.

COCO

Hey! No one is to blame for Damon not coming home except the stupid selfish bastard who was texting and driving. You didn't do that. Please, my girl, erase that thought forever.

THEY EMBRACE DEEPLY.

ALI

I miss him too.

COCO

I know, darlin', I know. You know he loved you, right? He was so happy you both came to live with us. The daughters we couldn't have. Whatever happens, you and your sister, you'll always be my girls. Ok? I'll always love you and fight for you. 'K?

ALI WIPES HER TEARS AND NODS.

ALI

You got my back and I got yours.

COCO

Always.

THE KITCHEN DOOR OPENS, VIOLA POPS HER HEAD OUT, RINGING A LITERAL DINNER BELL, POPS BACK IN.

COCO DRIES HER OWN TEARS. DANG, SHE'S CRIED A LOT TODAY.

COCO (CONT'D)

Ok, then. Let's eat. And hope nobody chokes.

END ACT THREE

#### ACT FOUR

#### INT. COCO'S KITCHEN -- LATER

AWKWARD FAMILY DINNER. SILENCE AND FAKE SMILES.

DAHLIA

So, girls. How's school?

COCO

It's summer.

DAHLIA

Obviously. How was your year?

COCO

Perfect attendance and solid As with a few Bs here and there. Layla says she hates math, but I think that really means she's just not as good at it as she wants to be. And Ali won a special creative writing award. They're doing great!

DAHLIA

Thanks for the recap, but I'd love to hear it from their own mouths if you'll let them speak.

VIOLA

Girls.

COCO

Ma.

DAHLIA

Lord, grant me the serenity.

COCO

Grant ME the serenity, Lord.

LAYLA

Oh Lord, Almighty One, Blesser of Children, please make these fools give it a rest.

COCO, DAHLIA, VIOLA

Layla! Go to your room!

LAYLA

Sorry. Not sorry. Anything to avoid witnessing this train wreck.

SHE PUSHES BACK FROM THE TABLE, TAKING HER PLATE WITH HER.

COCO

You can leave that here.

LAYLA

But, I'm hungry.

COCO

No food in your bedroom. You should thought about that before your mouth started writin' checks your ass can't cash.

LAYLA POUTS AND STORMS OFF.

DAHLIA

I don't like my daughter going hungry.

COCO

She knows my drill. She'll get a snack later when she apologizes.

DAHTITA

She's a growing girl.

COCO THROWS ONE OF HER SIGNATURE SHUT DOWN LOOKS. IT WORKS.

DAHLIA (CONT'D)

(Changing tack)

So, I found some apartments online.

COCO GRUNTS.

VIOLA

In the neighborhood?

DAHLIA

Yeah! One a few blocks away. I got an appointment to see it tomorrow.

VIOLA

I'll go with you!

DAHLIA

Thanks, Mama. I may need a cosigner.

VIOLA

Of course!

DAHLIA

And... I'm gonna need a security deposit.

COCO THROWS HER HANDS AND NAPKIN IN THE AIR.

COCO

Here we go! Serenity, LORD, please!

ALI

(sucks on inhaler)

May I be excused?

COCO, DAHLIA, VIOLA

Yes!

ALI HURRIES AWAY FROM THE IMPENDING BATTLE ROYALE.

VIOLA

Now, girls. Let's not make trouble.

COCO

No trouble, Mama. As long as she doesn't do what I know she gonna do. She asks me for money, this table getting flipped. Real simple.

DAHLIA

I just thought my family would want to help me out. For the kids.

COCO REELS. SHE TOYS WITH THE TABLE EDGE, TESTING ITS WEIGHT.

VIOLA

We're here for you, baby. Everyone wants to see you back on your feet.

COCO

On your feet, walkin' out my house.

DAHLIA

I'm doing my best Coco. I'm trying.

VIOLA

You're doing great, baby.

COCO

Yeah, this table'll flip real easy.

VIOLA

Stop it now, Coco, or, or... I'll send you to your room!

MY. HOUSE.

DAHLIA

Seriously. I had an idea. Just listen please, and don't flip out, or flip the table.

COCO STANDS, WALKS AWAY, LEANS AGAINST A FAR WALL.

COCO

Fine. I like my new Ikea dishes too much anyway. Let's hear your brilliant idea.

DAHLIA

I'm gonna need at least three thousand to move in anywhere.

COCO CHANNELS ANGER INTO TRYING TO FLIP THE COUNTER TOP.

VIOLA

Betcha we can get that saved up in a couple months. I've got about \$700 extra now.

COCO

Don't do it. Don't give her money!

DAHLIA

Thanks Ma. That'll help. And, I got a job at the market. Hear that Coco? I HAVE A JOB.

COCO

Minimum wage. For now.

DAHLIA

I just gotta get my life up and running, the sooner the better, y'know, and that car of yours... it is pretty rare.

COCO WHIRLS AROUND ON HER SISTER.

COCO

What about my HoneyBee?

DAHLIA

It's worth at least thirty-five hundred.

COCO

It's PRICELESS!

COCO'S RAGE MACHINE KICKS IN. BEYOND SPEECH NOW, SHE CAN MERELY SPUTTER, GRUNT AND GROWL.

DAHLIA

It's collecting dust!

COCO'S PROUD OF HER HOME AND SHE'S NOT GOING TO DO ANY REAL DAMAGE BUT DAMN DOES SHE WANT TO FLIP THAT FREAKING TABLE!

DAHLIA (CONT'D)

You're acting like a child.

COCO REFRAINS FROM THROWING ANYTHING BUT STOMPS AROUND THE KITCHEN, SHAKING AND BANGING POTS AND PANS. SHE PUSHES AT THE FRIDGE, SHE COULD TOPPLE IT IF SHE WANTED TO... SHE WON'T.

## INT. COCO'S HOUSE, HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

LAYLA AND ALI HAVE BEEN SPYING AROUND THE CORNER. THEY DUCK BACK INTO THEIR ROOMS.

### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, KITCHEN -- CONTINUOUS

DAHLIA AND VIOLA SIT, WAITING OUT THE COCO HURRICANE. THEY'VE SURVIVED THESE BEFORE.

COCO GRIPS THE EDGE OF THE TABLE, STARING DOWN HER SISTER. SHE RATTLES THE TABLE, FLIRTS WITH LIFTING IT AN INCH OR TWO.

VIOLA

Coco.

COCO

G'AAAHHHH!!!

BREATHES. BREATHES. STARES DOWN DAHLIA.

COCO (CONT'D)

I got custody for a reason. I'm not giving it up. Get ready for the fight of your life.

SHE DROPS THE TABLE & STORMS TO THE GARAGE. VIOLA STANDS, GOING AFTER COCO. DOOR SLAMS IN HER FACE. SHE LOOKS BACK TO DAHLIA . . . AND TRULY **SEES** HER FOR THE FIRST TIME.

#### END ACT FOUR

#### ACT FIVE

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, GARAGE -- NIGHT

COCO HUGS HER HONEYBEE.

COCO

Never, baby. Never.

SHE OPENS THE DOOR AND SITS INSIDE.

#### INT. INSIDE THE B210 -- CONTINUOUS

OUR DISCO DREAM RETURNS.

DAMON

Chin up, boo.

COCO

It's not that easy, baby.

DAMON

Who's my Wonder Woman? Gimme that Linda Carter sparkle.

COCO

They're gonna break me, D.

DAMON

No one can break Wonder Woman. If you haven't broken by now, it's never gonna happen.

COCO

Never say never.

DAMON

You know what I'm gonna say. There's only one answer.

COCO & DAMON

What's best for the kids.

COCO

That's not Dahlia.

DAMON

But she *is* their mama. They need to know her for themselves.

COCO IS TORN, HER HEART PULLED IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

THE PASSENGER DOOR OPENS. LAYLA AND ALI CLIMB IN. REALITY RETURNS.

THE GIRLS SHARE THE FRONT PASSENGER SEAT.

LAYLA

We're sorry, Auntie.

COCO

Well, you got reason to be sorry. Lucky you're not grounded for a month. But, what'd this one do?

AT<sub>1</sub>T

We're sorry for all the trouble. Don't sell your car for us.

COCO

I'd do anything for you. What's best for you is all that matters.

DOOR OPENS AGAIN. IT'S DAHLIA.

DAHLIA

Exactly.

COCO

(pleading with God)

Serenity!

DAHLIA

(to the girls.)

Scoot.

ALI AND LAYLA CLIMB INTO THE BACK SEAT.

COCO

Watch the upholstery!

DAHLIA SITS IN THE PASSENGER SEAT.

DAHLIA

Coco, hear me out.

DOOR OPENS AGAIN, IT'S VIOLA.

VIOLA

(to Dahlia)

Move it.

DAHLIA

Come on, Mama.

VIOLA

I said, MOVE.

DAHLIA STEPS OUT OF CAR, VIOLA MOVES THE SEAT FORWARD. DAHLIA CLIMBS IN BACK SEAT WITH THE GIRLS. VIOLA SITS SHOTGUN.

VIOLA (CONT'D)

Listen up people. You may think I'm an old fool--

COCO

Well, I mean...

VIOLA

Zip it! You may think I'm an old fool but I ain't. I'm the oldest and wisest here and I'm laying down the law.

DAHLIA

Go ahead Mama, we trust your judgment.

COCO SHOOTS A LOOK.

VIOLA

The thinnest switch!

COCO

Say what now?

DAHLIA

Mama!

VIOLA

I'm bringing the beat down, kid. I see now what enabling is. I won't do it this time. And, Coco's not selling this car for you.

COCO

She sees the light!

DAHLIA

But, Mama--

**A**LTOTA

No more shortcuts. No more handouts.

DAHLIA

I'll pay her back--

It's not about the money, honey!

VIOLA

You're gonna work. You're gonna save. You're gonna pay rent...
That's right, pay ME some rent. Get in the practice of doing it every month. Yes, I said every month!

DAHLIA POUTS LIKE ONE OF THE CHILDREN.

DAHLIA

How am I supposed to save if I'm paying rent to you?

VIOLA

Just \$500 a month and I'll put half of it in savings. And when you've got all you need for a security deposit on your own, then we can go look at some apartments. Deal?

DAHLIA WANTS TO PROTEST BUT LOOKS AT HER KIDS. THEIR FACES SO FULL OF HOPE, SHE CAN'T LET THEM DOWN.

DAHLIA

(surrendering)

Deal.

EVERYONE CELEBRATES!

COCO

Thank you Lord! And Mama!

LAYLA AND ALI HUG DAHLIA IN THE BACK SEAT. COCO WATCHES, IT WRECKS HER A LITTLE.

ALI

I'm proud of you, Mommy.

LAYLA

Me too!

DAHLIA

I'll make you real proud. I swear.
I'm not going backward again.

VIOLA

We won't let you.

MORE HUGS AND HAPPY FACES ALL AROUND.

Ok, this has been sweet but y'all gots to get outta my car! Some body needs some deodorant!

VIOLA OPENS THE DOOR.

VIOLA

Not a moment too soon!

ALI

Layla!

LAYLA

Hey! It's not my fault! Blame puberty.

THEY ALL PILE OUT OF THE CAR AND INSIDE, EXCEPT COCO. SHE ROLLS DOWN THE WINDOW INSTEAD. SHE LEANS HER HEAD OUT FOR A FEW DEEP BREATHS OF NOT STINKY AIR.

SHE PULLS HER HEAD BACK IN. SERENITY (AND DAMON) RETURN.

DAMON

I'm proud of you, sweet thang.

COCO

Yeah? For what? Mama saved the day. For once.

DAMON

Ok, how about, I'm proud that you didn't flip the table.

COCO

I really wanted to flip that table!

DAMON

I know!

THEY LAUGH AND LAUGH. BEAT. SHE TAKES OUT THE BUSINESS CARD FROM MUSTANG DRIVER.

COCO

I will get her running again. Fix her up real nice. Sell for some real money. Start a college fund for the girls.

DAMON

That sounds like a good plan.

#### INT. COCO'S HOUSE, GARAGE -- CONTINUOUS

LAYLA AND ALI STAND AT THE GARAGE DOOR, WATCHING COCO IN HER CAR, LAUGHING TO HERSELF AND TALKING TO NO ONE.

LAYLA

She gonna be ok?

ALI

Good question. Goooood question.

VIOLA COMES OUT AND SHOOS THE GIRLS BACK INSIDE, CLOSING THE DOOR. SHE WAITS FOR COCO TO EMERGE FROM THE CAR, EVENTUALLY.

COCO

Need something, Ma?

VIOLA

Do you?

COCO

Nah. But, hey. Umm... Thanks. For doing what you did.

VIOLA

No, thank you, sweet girl. I learned something about being a mother today.

COCO

Really?

VIOLA

Yep. Sometimes you gotta take care of the kid that needs ya the most. For most of our lives, that's been Dahlia.

COCO

Ya think?

VIOLA

Right now, it's you. I got your back, baby girl. I got you.

COCO BREAKS A LITTLE AND GOES IN FOR A HUG.

END ACT FIVE.

TAG

#### INT. D.M.V. STAFF LOUNGE -- DAY

AT THE WINDOW, COCO AND ZOOEY COUNT THE CARS AGAIN.

COCO

Civic.

ZOOEY

Corolla.

COCO

Prius.

ZOOEY

Jetta.

COCO

B-210!?!

ZOOEY

What? Like your HoneyBee?

COCO

Like, not exactly, but close enough. What the hell? Come on, big bucks, no whammies.

OUTSIDE, THE  $\underline{\text{B210 DRIVER}}$ , STEPS OUT. DANG! HE. IS. FINE. ZOOEY HEADS TOWARD THE DOOR, COCO PULLS HER BACK.

COCO (CONT'D)

Don't even think about it!

ZOOEY

Wha. Cha. Gon. Na. Do?

COCO

He gonna see what's under that wig.

ZOOEY

You wouldn't!

COCO

Don't tempt me. Mine!

COCO HEADS TOWARD THE DOOR, ZOOEY PULLS HER BACK. A TUG OF WAR TO GET OUT THE DOOR.

ZOOEY

Mine!

You wouldn't know what do with that!

ZOOEY

I'm a quick learner!

COCO

You're gonna be a quick bleeder in a second!

THEIR GRAPPLING AND BICKERING CONTINUES...

END OF PILOT.