

Sc. 1 Start

ERIC

That was fast.

MADDY

It wasn't a real place. It was these people pretending so they can, like, convert you or something.

ERIC

What?

MADDY

For real.

ERIC

Shit. Okay. Don't stress. We'll find somewhere.

MADDY

They showed me it.

ERIC

What?

MADDY

The baby. On this jumbo TV.

ERIC

Well that's not right. Aw, come here, don't look like that.

He pulls her into his arms so her head presses into his chest. This is a one-way hug.

MADDY

Maybe we should have it.

ERIC

What?

MADDY

We could get married.

He pulls back.

ERIC

We don't even really know each other that well.

(beat)

Look, it's just...This situation doesn't need to be...A situation. For either of us.

MADDY
You said you loved me.

ERIC
I said I love being with you.

It hits like a punch.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Mads, I'm sorry. This is coming out
all wrong.

Maddy unhooks a faux-ruby heart charm from her Pandora-style
bracelet. Holds it out to Eric.

Sc. 1 End

ERIC (CONT'D)
I got that for you.

He won't take it back. She throws it into the roadside verge.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Jesus, Maddy! That thing was
expensive.

She gets into her car. Door slams. Eric shouts at the window.

ERIC (CONT'D)
That's it? You're leaving?

She starts the engine. Won't look at him.

ERIC (CONT'D)
What are you going to do? Maddy?

She drives away.

ON ERIC: Fuck.

He goes over to the verge where she threw the charm and
starts searching.

We turn back toward the motel. Stop on the door to ROOM 8.

27 INT. MOTEL - ROOM 8 - CONTINUOUS

27

LUKE (27), lies in bed, pretending to sleep. His muscular
body etched with tan lines, naked but covered. He stares
vacantly at the ceiling.

The shower is on in the bathroom. The water stops. DANIEL
(30's, Hispanic), more sex appeal than pretty, emerges.

46 INT. HAIR SALON - LATER

46

Sc. 2 Start

The salon is empty, except for Maddy and Jess. Country on the radio. Jess watches her daughter's fingers move as she mixes hair dye.

JESS

You planning on fixing that polish?

MADDY

Mom.

JESS

What? You work with your hands.
It's tacky. People judge.

Maddy ignores her mother. Keeps working. Jess's phone PINGS. She looks at the screen.

JESS (CONT'D)

Tor Watch.

Jess sees the worry on her daughter's face.

JESS (CONT'D)

Maddy? Is it this, or something
else?

Maddy picks up a comb and weaves the tail end through Jess's hair. Slides foil under. It's not quite right. She tries several times as they talk.

MADDY

It's just, there was this lady in
this morning. Real successful. She
had this baby. It got me thinking
about my life path. That's all.

JESS

What do you mean? You're going to
Tulsa. To hair school. Don't tell
me you changed your mind after all
the work you put in.

Maddy looks at her Mom in the mirror. Decides.

MADDY

I'm pregnant.

Jess stares at her daughter. Maddy just keeps working.

JESS

Stop.

Maddy bundles a foil package.

JESS (CONT'D)
Maddy, stop!

Jess swivels her chair around.

JESS (CONT'D)
How far?

MADDY
I don't know. Seven, eight weeks.

JESS
Oh, hon.

Jess reaches for her daughter's hand, but Maddy doesn't want to be touched.

JESS (CONT'D)
Whose is it?

MADDY
Just this guy. He's from Prairie Rock.

JESS
Is it a relationship?

MADDY
He wants me to you know, not to have it.

JESS
Hon, sit. Maddy, please.

She does.

JESS (CONT'D)
What do you want?

MADDY
I don't know.

JESS
Do you want a baby right now?

MADDY
I don't know.

Jess considers her words carefully.

JESS

I know you didn't ask my opinion,
but the thing is, you shouldn't
feel pressure one way or another,
not by anyone. You don't have to do
anything. By that I mean, it's your
body. Your life. Do you want to
have a baby right now?

MADDY

How am I supposed to answer that?
How am I supposed to decide?

JESS

Are you prepared to raise a child?
Pay to support another person as
well as yourself?

MADDY

People say abortion's murder.

JESS

Yeah, I know those people. They're
pro-life when the baby's on the
inside. Minute it's out, it's a
drain on society.

Jess takes a moment. Considers her next words carefully.

JESS (CONT'D)

I was young when I had you. You
know. And I love you more than
anything in this world...but you
ruined my life.

Maddy smiles, through sad eyes.

JESS (CONT'D)

You are hands down the best and
most challenging thing that ever
happened to me. You need to know,
raising a child is 24-7, 365,
forever. It's not easy.
Emotionally. Financially. In every
possible way - and that's if you
have a man who's a good father. I
love you, but there's a reason
you're an only child.

She watches Maddy process this.

MADDY

What about God?

JESS

God gave us this choice. I can't make it for you, but I am here whatever you decide.

Sc. 2 End

The salon owner returns with lunch.

SALON OWNER

Okay, here we go. They were outta Diet so I got Zero instead. Two BLTs and a tuna wrap.

She puts the food on the counter as Maddy dries her eyes.

SALON OWNER (CONT'D)

I hope you're not upsetting my staff.

JESS

Just a mother-daughter moment.

The salon owner looks at the pot of dye sitting on the cart.

SALON OWNER

How long's this been sittin'? You gotta use it straight away or it'll mess up the shade.

Phones PING again.

JESS

School closures. County-wide.

MADDY

I gotta get Peyton.

SALON OWNER

You go on, I'll finish this.

The salon owner takes over coloring. Maddy gets her things.

JESS

Hey, child. Give your mother a kiss.

Maddy does. Her pone RINGS.

MADDY

(on phone)

Hi Kim. Yeah, I'm on my way.

In the mirror, Jess watches Maddy go.