

More Going Down

A musical

By Dennis Manning



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CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jake, Boyfriend of Carlos

Robin, a friend of Jake's, Carlos' former boyfriend

Carlos, Boyfriend of Jake

Mitch, Manager of Jake

Karen, a friend of Carlos and his former girlfriend

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

-LOVERS, LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS - CAST

-I WILL DEFEND YOU - JAKE, ROBIN

-WOULD YOU DANCE WITH ME? - CARLOS, JAKE

-MORE GOING DOWN - KAREN, ROBIN

-ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE - MITCH

-WHAT IF? - CARLOS, JAKE

ACT II

-WHEN I MET YOU* - CARLOS, ROBIN

-AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN - KAREN, JAKE, CAST

-WHAT WOULD CHER DO? - CAST

-THE ONION - JAKE, ROBIN, MITCH, KAREN

-MORE GOING DOWN (REPRISE) - CAST

-*WHAT ABOUT SPAIN - CARLOS, ROBIN (ALT ACT II, SCENE 1)

SETTINGS

ACT I

PROLOGUE - LOVERS, LIES and ALIBIS

Act I - Scene 1, - 6pm Present day, Bar

Act I - Scene 2, - An hour later , present day, Jake & Carlos Apartment

Act I - Scene 3, - 4-years ago, Bar

Act I - Scene 4, - 4-years ago + 10 min, Apartments of Karen and Robin

Act I - Scene 5, - 3-days Before Today - The Office

Act I - Scene 6, - 2-days Before Today, Jake & Carlos Apartment

ACT II

Act II - Scene 1*, - 1-days before today, Jake & Carlos Apartment

Act II - Scene 2, - Today, The Office, 2pm

Act II - Scene 3, - INTERLUDE - The Mash Up

Act II - Scene 4, Today, 7pm present day, Jake & Carlos Apartment

*ALT Act II - Scene 1- day before today, Jake & Carlos Apartment

RODUCTION NOTES

The production starts in present day. Then moves back in time 4 years. Then progress in time back to present day.

Run Down

There is more going down then just the sun as love, lies and other alibis collide. Carlos and his boyfriend Robin craft the plan to get rich and get out using the love that Jake, and Karen have for Carlos. Mitch will take the fall, or will he? Carlos is found dead, and everyone has a motive. Karen is the last one standing in the final moments as she screams, "help I feel threatened." There is a lot more going down between these five people as motives, deceit and deception take centerstage.

Present day we meet Robin and Jake, planning the breakaway of Jake from Carlos, Jake's boyfriend of 4-years. Jake is nervous and Robin can calm Jake with his cool and controlled style as he sings "I Will Defend You." Robin always has his plan front and center. They go to the apartment to confront Carlos and Carlos is dead. "Somebody got here before us" says Robin. Jake says, "We should call the police." Robin answers in a gritty, gruff tone, "not until we find out who did this."

Time shift! Back 4-years ago on the night that Jake meets Carlos at a bar. Mitch is the bartender. Sinatra tunes are playing. Jake loves Sinatra tunes. Carlos is smooth. Carlos is Cuban. Carlos is intoxicating. He sings, "Would you dance with me? Take a chance with me." Jake is captured. Carlos is interrupted by two phone calls. Jake feels the night is magical. Or is it? Did Carlos just happen to walk in? Did Sinatra just happen to be playing? Why does Carlos smell of Cuban cigars?

4-years and 10-minutes later the stage is split as we are hearing the conversations of the two phone calls to Carlos from Karen and Robin. The plot unfolds as Karen is stood up again by Carlos and Robin is driving "the plan" but appears to be stood up as well, for appearances, by Carlos just like Karen. Is it truth? Is it lies? Karen and Robin each sing their laments about Carlos in the Title song "More Going Down" Explosive display of emotion. Karen will not be left behind. Robin has just given the performance of a lifetime to convince Karen that he, too, will not be set aside by Carlos.

3-Days before today. Mitch has had a secret love for Jake for 4-years, ever since the night Jake and Carlos met. Karen has urged Mitch, at the request of Carlos, all part of "The Plan" to make a move on Jake as Jake and Carlos are at odds with each other. Mitch surprises Jake with Roses, that have sadly lost their scent. Mitch makes advances on Jake, and Jake declines the kisses and affections. Mitch slaps Jake down. Jake leaves. Karen enters and says, "well that went down, badly. Make

a move Mitch, but don't slap him to the ground." Mitch is brooding. Mitch is embarrassed. Mitch sings, "Another Rose On the Vine."

2-days before today. At the apartment of Jake and Carlos. Tension is high. Carlos says, "This is not a good time. You don't mean that Jake." Jake replies, "when would be a good time to tell you that I am leaving?" Enter Karen, the ALPHA-WOMEN. Karen and Carlos go way back. Karen has a disdain for Jake and Jake mirrors the same distaste. An argument ensues, politely between Jake and Carlos in front of Karen. Jake feels invalidated. Karen laughs. Jake leaves. Karen entered with a blonde wig as she said, "well I hear those blondes have more fun." With Jake's departure from the room Karen tries to rekindle a very old flame that used to exist with Carlos. Karen Leaves. Jake comes back. Carlos attempts to take a step back and be loving to Jake as he sings, "What if I said I'm sorry, what if I took the chance?" The song did not smooth over the argument and in a moment of rage, Carlos slaps Jake to the ground. Jake says, "Jesus, that is the second time I got hit in 2-days." Jake leaves. Carlos, center is joined by Robin. "The Plan" is right on track. There is more going down than just the sun tonight. End of Act I.

Act II opens 1-day before today. Carlos and Robin are together at the apartment. Jake has left. Carlos and Robin, lay out the final plans of "The Plan" They are two lovers crafting a web of lies, deceit and alibis. Carlos sings of his love for Robin, "We better run from a life of never-ending-waiting-in-lines, a life of regrets time after time." "The Plan" is set to wrap up. Robin and Carlos are confident that everything will fall into place. They forgot about one thing. Karen.

1-day before today. Carlos has instructed Karen to talk to Jake and provide him a gun to protect himself for the advances of Mitch. Jake is an avid, non-violence person. Karen, being the Alpha-Woman, can seduce anyone into anything. In a pivotal moment as Karen is seducing Jake with the gun and singing her torch song, "After the Thunder, After the Rain," she realizes in that moment that she is the pawn. There is a hurricane coming, called KAREN, and she is going to clear a path and settle the score with everyone.

Today. The mash-up. Jake echoes several times throughout the production, "what would Cher do if she was in this moment?" She would, "snap out of it." The Cast is assembled wearing Cher Wigs as they beat out the rhythm, feel and lyrics to "What would Cher do?" They sing in an anthem-like state as the song drives and builds and collides. The song is full of a Les Miserable-style full vocal score and as the song finishes we are back at the beginning with Robin and Jake about to enter the apartment from the opening scene to find Carlos dead on the floor. It is time to peel back the onion.

Final scene. Jake and Robin enter the apartment. Carlos is dead. Robin answers in a gritty, gruff tone, "not until we find out who did this." Karen appears out of nowhere. She talks in a surprised-I-don't-know-what-is-going-on voice "Well, Boys, what do we have here? OH is that Carlos?. Robin and his "Plan" is quickly deteriorating. The scene is moving fast. Karen seems to dart in

and out as she lays out truths, lies and alibis. Mitch enters with a gun. Another surprise. Mitch is here to save Jake. Mitch is supposed to be dead. Robin is confused as Carlos is dead (not the plan) and Mitch is alive (not the plan). Karen continues to taunt and tease. She provides a brief sound recording of Robin and Carlos discussing "The plan" and this incites Jake and Mitch to go after Robin. Karen has the gun. Mitch's gun is empty, seems he, too, is a pacifist. Robin advance on Karen and she fires a warning shot. Mitch goes to leave but the apartment door is locked. Robin advances again and Karen fires another warning shot. Karen asks Jake, "Jakey are you counting the bullets?" Jake responds, "Yes, 2-bullets gone." Karen sighs, "Robin, this is your plan, how many bullets fired?" Robin grits, "3-bullets. 3. 2-shot at me and 1-bullet for Carlos." Mitch is confused. Jake is dazed. Jake feels like they should say something, Carlos is dead on the floor. The Cast each take a verse on "The Onion" as we hear the seeds of the stories that were in front of us the entire time enfold and unravel. As the song is ending, on the last line, the lights go out. Robin shouts in the dark, "Nobody move." Gun shot. Robin is dead. Mitch shouts, "what happened?" Gun shot. Mitch is dead. Jake says, "Karen what is going on?" Gun shot. Jake is dead. Karen lights a candle and says in a dramatic voice, "Oh I feel threatened! I feel Threatated!" There is a pounding on the door, "Police open up!" Lights come on. On the floor dead are Carlos, Robin, Mitch and Jake. Karen says in a cool voice and smiles, "Alexa stop recording." END. LIGHTS OUT.

The cast assembles for a group reprise of "More Going Down" the final chorus. "The sun will rise. The sun will set. I wonder now was I the only one. There's more going down tonight then just the sun. There's more going down tonight, then just the sun."

ACT I

PROLOGUE

"Smooth Operator" by Sade plays.

The stage is dark. CARLOS strikes a match and we see the flame. Lights on the stage come up slowly revealing CARLOS as he lights his CUBAN cigar.

There is a small crate on stage (a cube style) for CARLOS to put one foot up on. He wears boots, dress shirt, gun holster that we see with a gun in it.

Carlos is center stage. He exudes "machismo." He looks around, knows he owns the world around Him. He breathes it all in. He smiles.

"Smooth Operator" fades as the music vamps - "LOVERS, LIES & OTHER ALIBIS"

Carlos owns the scene. Not intimidated by anyone or anything.

The cast moves on to the stage and move around CARLOS.

SONG: LOVERS, LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS

JAKE, MITCH, ROBIN & KAREN SING

(In a low, chant-like sound repeating as they assemble and move through the opening movement of CARLOS)

LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS
LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS ...

The each in turn move in close for a look, a smell of the "Cuban Cigar" and they each try to gain the attention of CARLOS. He may nod, acknowledge or turn away as in "no interest."

JAKE moves in, as he and CARLOS look. ALL the cast looks as Jake and Carlos kiss. Jake moves on.

KAREN moves in and takes the cigar and gives a puff, as an ALPHA woman, she smiles and gives the cigar back to CARLOS. KAREN takes the gun and points it around. She passes the gun to MITCH, he puts it in his back pocket like a thug would do.

MITCH moves in and he and CARLOS glare at each other. ROBIN pulls the gun out of MITCH'S back pocket. MITCH turns around. MITCH moves away.

ROBIN moves in. He circles around CARLOS, CARLOS looks away. ROBIN tries again to gain the eye of CARLOS, and CARLOS looks away. ROBIN puts the gun back in CARLOS' gun holster.

The cast splits the stage, CARLOS remains CENTER.

The Music queues up.

ROBIN, KAREN, MITCH & JAKE

SING

WHY DO YOU SMELL OF CUBAN CIGARS

Carlos arrogantly smiles and smokes again.

WHERE DID YOU GO IN YOUR MIND LAST NIGHT?

CARLOS moves between them all. CARLOS kisses JAKE and shows JAKE the gun, CARLOS smiles and pushes JAKE off.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW, BECUASE SOMETHING IS JUST NOT RIGHT

CARLOS shoulder bumps MITCH, they
have a stare down, CARLOS SMILES
and moves on

I SENSE A CHANGE IN THE AIR, WHY ARE YOU SO FAR AWAY?

CARLOS moves back to center,
smokes on more time. He smiles.

CAST SINGS

LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS
A CHANCE ROMANCE UNDER THE STARS IN THE SKY
LOVERS WILL LEAVE YOU AND LIES ARE A GAURUNTEE

CARLOS SINGS

I'LL BE YOUR ALIBIS IF YOU WILL BE ONE FOR ME

The music vamps.

JAKE, MITCH, ROBIN & KAREN SING

(In a low, chant-like sound
repeating as they assemble and
move through the opening movement
of CARLOS)

LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS
LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS ...

The CAST now moves around the
stage, interacting with each
other. KAREN remains an ALPHA
woman, CARLOS toys with each of
them. MITCH tries to gain the
attention of JAKE, JAKE is lost in
the eyes of CARLOS. ROBIN
observes and studies.

CARLOS back to center stage,
smokes again. Arrogance all around
him.

The music queues back up

WHAT WAS THAT SCENT SUDDENLY IN THE AIR?
WHY DID YOU LOOK SUDDNELY OVER THERE?

CARLOS moves in between each of
them

WHAT ARE THE REASONS YOU MAKE LOVE TO ME?

CARLOS back to center.

CARLOS SINGS

THESE ARE THE SEASONS OF LOVE YOU SEE.
LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS

A CHANCE ROMANCE UNDER THE STARS IN THE SKY
LOVERS WILL LEAVE YOU

KAREN, MITCH, ROBIN, JAKE SING
AND LIES ARE A GAURUNTEE

CARLOS SINGS
I'LL BE YOUR ALIBIS IF YOU WILL BE ONE FOR ME

The CAST again mingles, interacts,
trouble is brewing.

KAREN, MITCH, ROBIN, JAKE SING
YOU SAID, "ANOTHER NIGHT WORKING LATE"

CARLOS SINGS
SO SAD.

KAREN, MITCH, ROBIN, JAKE SING
YOU SAID, "I HAVE A LOVER"

CARLOS SINGS
WELL THAT'S TOO BAD

JAKE SINGS
YOU SAID, "I'LL BE TRUE JUST LIKE THE SKY IS BLUE.

CARLOS SINGS
I SAID, "OF COURSE EVERY NIGHT I DREAM OF YOU."

KAREN, MITCH, ROBIN, JAKE SING
LOVE ME LIKE A LOVER
LIE TO ME LIKE A THIEF

CARLOS SINGS
ASK ME NO QUESTIONS, I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES

The CAST now sets the stage for
SCENE 1. A pop up bar is pulled
out. As they set the stage CARLOS
sings and they repeat the line
over. As the stage is set.

The crate is removed.

A pop up bar is in place STAGE
LEFT.

CARLOS SINGS (CONT'D)
ASK ME NO QUESTIONS, I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES

KAREN, MITCH, ROBIN, JAKE SING
ASK ME NO QUESTIONS, I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES

CARLOS SINGS
ASK ME NO QUESTIONS, I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES

KAREN, MITCH, ROBIN, JAKE SING
ASK ME NO QUESTIONS, I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES

CAST now back with CARLOS in the
center

CAST SINGS
LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS
A CHANCE ROMANCE UNDER THE STARS IN THE SKY
LOVERS WILL LEAVE YOU AND LIES ARE A GAURUNTEE

CARLOS SINGS

I'LL BE YOUR ALIBIS IF YOU WILL BE ONE FOR ME.

KAREN, JAKE, ROBIN and MITCH leave
the stage

CARLOS moves center. He surveys
the scene. He smiles. His
arrogance is very apparent. He
smokes once more. He taps on the
gun. The music crescendo and
holds.

CARLOS SINGS (CONT'D)
I'LL BE YOUR ALIBIS IF YOU WILL BE ONE

CARLOS holds the note.

FOR ME!

Black out. CARLOS leaves the
stage.

ACT I - SCENE 1 - TODAY, 615 PM BAR

We hear SADE "*Smooth Operator*"
chorus "*No need to ask. He's a
smooth operator. Smooth
operator...*"

The feeling is tense. The bar is
set. Jake walks on.

JAKE is standing, looking nervous.
He looks at his watch.

JAKE
Where is he?

ROBIN ENTERS

ROBIN
Jake.

JAKE

Robin, where have you been?

ROBIN

Relax, Jake, relax. I am here now.

Music now quickly vamps to "I Will
Defend you."

Song: I WILL DEFEND YOU

JAKE SINGS

DID HE SEE YOU?

ROBIN SINGS

NO

JAKE SINGS

ARE YOU SURE? HOW DO YOU KNOW?

ROBIN SINGS

I KNOW. I JUST KNOW.

JAKE SINGS

CARLOS WILL KILL YOU. HE'LL KILL US BOTH

ROBIN SINGS

JUST LET HIM TRY, THAT BASTARD

JAKE SINGS

DON'T SAY THAT. KEEP IT DOWN

ROBIN SINGS

I WILL PROTECT YOU
I WILL DEFEND YOU
I WILL TAKE YOU AWAY
NO MORE FEAR
NO MORE DESPAIR
YOU WILL NOT DIE, AGAIN, TODAY

JAKE

The music vamps.

Nervous and tense in his voice
looking around. He grabs ROBIN by
the arm.

How do you know that you were not followed

ROBIN

ROBIN pats JAKE on the cheek and
squeezes his arm.

Jake, I am good. I have done this before.
Nobody saw me.

JAKE

Karen? Did she see you. She is his eyes, always looking. God I hate her.

ROBIN

Let's just talk through the plan.

JAKE SINGS

HE WON'T LET ME LEAVE

ROBIN SINGS

YES

JAKE SINGS

ARE YOU SURE? HOW DO YOU KNOW?

ROBIN SINGS

I KNOW. I JUST KNOW.

JAKE SINGS

CARLOS WILL KILL YOU. HE'LL KILL US BOTH

ROBIN SINGS

JUST STICK TO THE PLAN. REMEMBER THE PLAN

JAKE SINGS

OK COPY THAT. JUST KEEP IT DOWN

ROBIN SINGS

I WILL PROTECT YOU
I WILL DEFEND YOU
I WILL TAKE YOU AWAY
NO MORE FEAR
NO MORE DESPAIR
YOU WILL NOT DIE, AGAIN, TODAY

JAKE

Nervous and pleading.

I don't think that I can go through with this.

ROBIN

Forceful and then backing down to ease JAKE.

I did not come all this way. We have not come this far to back down from him now.

JAKE

Robin. I am scared.

ROBIN

I know I am too, but we have been through this. You said you needed my help

JAKE

But are you sure it's all true

ROBIN

Are you kidding? He hit you didn't he. He said, "you will never leave me."

JAKE

I know. I know. It's just

ROBIN

Jake just stick to the plan. I have a plan.

JAKE

Yes. Stick to the plan

Music queues back up.

ROBIN SINGS

DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

JAKE SINGS

NO

ROBIN SINGS

ARE YOU SURE? COME ON THINK AGAIN?

JAKE SINGS

I KNOW. I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.

ROBIN SINGS

CARLOS WILL KILL YOU. HE'LL KILL US BOTH

JAKE SINGS

THAT'S WHY WE SHOULD GO, DON'T YOU AGREE?

ROBIN SINGS

DON'T SAY THAT. KEEP IT DOWN

ROBIN SINGS (CONT'D)

I WILL PROTECT YOU

I WILL DEFEND YOU

I WILL TAKE YOU AWAY

NO MORE FEAR

NO MORE DESPAIR

YOU WILL NOT DIE, AGAIN, TODAY

JAKE

But what if he gets angry. Carlos will not like this or go along

ROBIN

ROBIN reveals a gun holster. This is the same gun and holster from the opening.

I got protection. We have....protection

JAKE

I said no guns. No violence.

ROBIN

Right. *You said it.* I did not.

JAKE

You are not bringing that gun. Promise me, "No." This can only turn out bad. I, well we, should just leave now. We are dropping off the gun at your place first. Promise me. Robin!

ROBIN

Irritated as the "PLAN" is getting messy.

What?

JAKE

I said, "promise me."

ROBIN

Ok. Ok. We will stop by my place first and drop off the gun. If it goes down bad, I'll hit him, knock him down, you run. We will meet at my place. You got that? You just run and don't look back. You got that? Jake? Jake!

JAKE

What?

ROBIN

I said, "Do you got that?"

JAKE

Yes. Yes.

ROBIN

Yes, "What?"

JAKE

I turn and run, don't look back

ROBIN

Right.

JAKE

Maybe, maybe it's not as bad as it seems?

ROBIN

Jake. You know too much about Carlos. What he does. Karen, knows that too, she is gonna be a problem. You know that, right.

JAKE

Ok, ok, just keep it down. We should get out of here.

ROBIN

Right. Let's do this. The plan. Are you clear on the plan?

JAKE

(sounding nervous)

Yes. Yes, the plan I got it.

ROBIN

Great. Tell me.

JAKE

Tell you?

ROBIN

Yes. I want to go through it one more time

ROBIN SINGS:

He sings the chorus twice as Jake speaks "the plan"

I WILL PROTECT YOU
I WILL DEFEND YOU
I WILL TAKE YOU AWAY
NO MORE FEAR
NO MORE DESPAIR
YOU WILL NOT DIE, AGAIN, TODAY
I WILL PROTECT YOU
I WILL DEFEND YOU
I WILL TAKE YOU AWAY
NO MORE FEAR
NO MORE DESPAIR
YOU WILL NOT DIE, AGAIN, TODAY

JAKE

(he speaks under the singing, but both voices are equally heard)

OK, I walk in and I give Carlos a Kiss. I say, "Carlos. I want to break up. Yes leave. No nothing, it's me. I need to focus on some things and well, you will be fine."

JAKE stops and shakes his head. Then says out loud to the air.

Bullshit.

The music suddenly stops. JAKE is
a pile of nerves. He is excitable.

This is bullshit.
Carol will never go for that.

ROBIN

(revealing his holster)
Oh yes he will. I'll help, Carlos see things
my way

JAKE

I said no guns, you promised. He's gonna kill
us

ROBIN

Not if I kill him first.

JAKE

No guns.

ROBIN

Come on. Drink up. Let's get the hell out of
here and get this over with.

"SMOOTH OPERATOR" vamps.

They leave the bar. EXIT The
stage.

ACT 1-SCENE 2 - JAKE'S & CARLOS APARTMENT - AN HOUR LATER

The Bar comes off the stage, the
apartment is set up. Entrance at
Stage left (same spot as the bar
was). In the room is a lamp, a
couch, a chair, just the
suggestions of other apartment
accents.

The lights go dark on the
apartment. Carlos, takes his
place, face down, dead on the
floor in front of the couch.

The music dies out as the lights
come up on JAKE and ROBIN at the
door. The apartment is dark.

JAKE and ROBIN are outside the
apartment. ROBIN is cool. JAKE
is nervous.

ROBIN

Are you cool, Jake?

No response. He elbows Jake.

JAKE

Yes, yes I am cool. Just nervous

Jake drops his keys

ROBIN

Jesus, Jake get it together

JAKE

Ok, ok, I am just scared. What if this goes bad? What if Carlos gets angry?

ROBIN

Speaking in a hushed, slightly irritated tone.

Come on Jake, open the door.

JAKE

JAKE speaking in a hushed and nervous tone.

Ok, OK I am ready.

JAKE opens the door. He turns on the light. This lights up only the entrance. We DO NOT see the body on the floor.

Carlos? Carlos? I am home. Carlos?

JAKE looks around. Something is not right.

Robin, something is wrong.

The lights come up and CARLOS is dead on the floor, Jake nearly trips over him.

Robin. Robin.

ROBIN

Stunned, but quickly assessing the scene. The "PLAN" has just changed.

What the Fuck?

JAKE

What happened?

ROBIN

In a controlled but slightly
panicked tone.
Somebody got here before we did

JAKE

What do you mean "before we did" what were you
going to do

ROBIN

Ignoring JAKE, focusing on the
"PLAN" and quickly thinking like a
thief just caught.
Jake. Wake up. The plan. The plan went wrong.
You think Carlos would just let you walk out?

ROBIN is pacing and trying to
think.

JAKE

But you said, "I just know." We got to get out
of here, now

ROBIN

Shit. This is not the plan.

Taking control of himself.
Thinking quickly and now in a
slightly angered tone.

This is not the plan.

JAKE

Robin, come on we got to go. We should call
911.

ROBIN

Not till we find out who did this. We are not
safe until we know.

BLACKOUT

JAKE and ROBIN exit the stage.
The song "Blurred Lines" plays
just the CHORUS as the stage is
set back up for the bar. The
apartment slides off. The bar
slides on. Jake has changed his
shirt. Tight shirt. He looks
good.

ACT I - SCENE 3: 4-YEARS AGO, BAR

Pop up bar, Bartender (Mitch); the BARTNEDER is busy cleaning the bar. His cell phone rings. The music continues to play softly in the background.

MITCH THE BARTENDER

He answers the phone we do not hear the conversation.

Hello, Mitch here.

He smiles.

Hey, Carlos. Yes everything is set. Yes I told the DJ. Yes but "Sinatra tunes?" I know, I know you are paying. It's all set. Yes I will hand your "drink as usual" Come on? I am not just a bartender. I am an actor. Been in movies. You said you saw me in that spy movie, yes it was a great part, oh yea, I got screen time and credits...

The call drops

Hello? Hello? Carlos? Damn. Call dropped.

MITCH THE BARTENDER smiles and laughs

"Sinatra tunes!" Well it's Carlos' money. He always has some plan or setup going. I play along. I get paid.

JAKE enters. As gets to the bar, the BARTNEDER gives a nod and a waive off stage to the "DJ" we do not see to change the music to SINATRA.

Jake walks up to the bar. The background music is playing "Blurred Lines" then as the BARTENDER SIGNALES an abrupt switch to a Sinatra slow song playing.

JAKE

To the bartender.

God a love Sinatra songs. Can I have a beer?

MITCH THE BARTENDER

One beer. Yea, Sinatra songs are great.

The bartender winks and nods.
Hey what's your name. I haven't seen you
before.

CARLOS enters and is watching this
attempted "pick up" by MITCH who
is trying to get JAKE. CARLOS will
deal with MITCH later.

JAKE

Jake. My name is Jake.

MITCH THE BARTENDER

Smiles and reaches his hand out
the shake Jake's hand.
Good to meet you. I am Mitch. Hey I get off
in an hour you want to

CARLOS Walks in. His entrance cuts
off the conversation with MITCH
and JAKE. MITCH now looks a
little nervous. CARLOS glares at
MITCH to let him know that he
knows what MITCH was trying to do.
CARLOS now focuses on JAKE.
CARLOS sets his eyes on JAKE. JAKE
smiles awkwardly. JAKE is
immediately taken with CARLOS.
MITCH has now become a wall flower
in the scene. CARLOS is in
control.

MITCH THE BARTENDER

Carlos, here is your drink as usual.

CARLOS is handed a drink.

Jake looks and is impressed. He is
humming the Sinatra song.

CARLOS

CARLOS says this as a well
rehearsed BOGART-Style "Here's
looking at you kid" tone.

Thanks, Mitch, you always know what I like

CARLOS gives a long look at JAKE.

He looks JAKE over smiles and nods. He speaks in a lower, sexy voice to JAKE.

So what's your name?

MITCH

To CARLOS in an upbeat I-want-to-help tone.

His name is

CARLOS

CARLOS GLARES AT MITCH. CARLOS gives MITCH a "Hands Up" as to silence MITCH. MITCH stops talking.

To Jake

So what's your name?

JAKE

JAKE is nervous but trying to be cool. During this interaction JAKE does hold his own, playing along with CARLOS. JAKE is head-over-heals.

What?

CARLOS

CARLOS speaking lower and sexy. He takes a step closer to JAKE. JAKE backs up just a step and smiles.

WHAT is your name?

CARLOS smiles. It is now, "game time" He is on the move to Get Jake.

Wait don't tell me! "Rick?" "No no, "Rick is slick" I know, your name is "FRED" No, no "Fred is dead"

JAKE

Fred is dead?

CARLOS

Well, I mean I haven't heard from him in a while

MITCH THE BARTENDER

MITCH is trying to reinsert himself in the scene. Lost cause! No one is paying attention to MITCH. He speaks in a bright tone.

Yea, Carlos, one day he just never came back

CARLOS

CARLOS gives MITCH "The Hand" again to silence MITCH.

Ok, ok, let's see, "Riley?"

JAKE

Riley? That sounds like a dog's name

CARLOS

A dog? Hmmm, do you roll over?

JAKE

JAKE in a playful tone. He is about to hear a series of one-liners from CARLOS. JAKE finds it cute. He plays along very light hearted. CARLOS is on the MOVE to get JAKE. JAKE wants to be taken by CARLOS but JAKE is not a pushover. He pushes back and CARLOS like the fire JAKE demonstrates.

Do those lines ever work?

CARLOS

CARLOS is smug and smiles, think of BRANDO and all that manliness that he exuded. CARLOS is the "Smooth Operator."

Well I want it to work this time. Mitch let's get Jake a drink. Give him what I have.

MITCH

Sure thing, Carlos, coming right up.

JAKE

JAKE in an easy but confident tone. He extends his hand.

Jake, the name is Jake. I have a drink.

CARLOS

"Jake." I knew it.

JAKE smiles and rolls his eyes like "yea sure."

And you are gonna want my drink from now on.

MITCH hands JAKE the drink.

JAKE

VERY playfully playing along. JAKE loves this cat-and-mouse exchange. JAKE smiles.

Really, you knew my name was JAKE? Thanks for the drink. And? I am having this from now on?

CARLOS

You will get used to it.

CARLOS pulls Jake in for a kiss. After the kiss JAKE who is flustered and trying to stay cool says in a plain, matter-of-fact tone through this interaction not giving CARLOS the satisfaction that he won.

JAKE

That was good.

CARLOS

Good?

JAKE

It was nice. Easy cowboy.

CARLOS

Nice? I can do better than that.

CARLOS pulls in again, Jake lightly blocks him. They both laugh

Hey!

JAKE

Oh no, not another pick up line.

CARLOS

Would you dance with me?

JAKE

Dance with you? Here?

SONG: WOULD YOU DANCE WITH ME

The opening chord is played.

CARLOS SINGS

The music vamps. CARLOS sings this very smooth and easy, like Sinatra would, this is an instant connection and builds as this scene continues. CARLOS moves easy, sings easy, kisses easy. He takes control over JAKE. All JAKE can do is fall for CARLOS.

WOULD YOU DANCE WITH ME?

Pause. SMILE and WINK by CARLOS to JAKE

TAKE A CHANCE WITH ME

Pause. SMILE by CARLOS to JAKE

COME ON DANCE WITH ME

CARLOS signals with his fingers
"Come on, come on"

COME ON, IT'S JUST A DANCE

CARLOS pulls JAKE on to the floor to dance

COME AND TAKE MY HAND

CARLOS pulls jake in as they dance. This is very engaging

FEEL THE RHYTHM OF THE BAND

COME ON DANCE WITH ME

COME ON IT'S JUST A DANCE

CARLOS Spins JAKE around. Romantic

IT'S A SLOW SONG
AND THAT'S WEHRE YOU AND I BELONG
THIS IS NOT ROMANCE

JAKE

Seriously, not romance? You fooled me

CARLOS SINGS

THIS IS JUST A DANCE.
JUST A DANCE

The music vamps under the
dialogue.

JAKE

Well you move pretty good.

CARLOS

I am LATIN, it is in my blood.

CARLOS pulls JAKE into him again
and kisses, JAKE gives in.

JAKE

I feel like you have done this before?

CARLOS SINGS

THIS IS NOT A LINE

JAKE

Here we go

CARLOS SINGS

BUT DO YOU KNOW THE TIME?

JAKE

Yea, it's 8:15

CARLOS SINGS

NO IT'S TIME TO DANCE WITH ME

CARLOS motions "come on baby dance with me, very playful.

COME ON DANCE WITH ME

COME ON, IT'S JUST A DANCE

JAKE & CARLOS SING

IT'S A SLOW SONG

AND THAT'S WHERE YOU AND I BELONG

JAKE SINGS

THIS IS NOT ROMANCE

CARLOS SINGS

COME ON IT'S JUST A DANCE. JUST A DANCE.

CARLOS' cell phone rings, CARLOS steps away. We do not hear KAREN, only CARLOS' responses. CARLOS is preoccupied with JAKE. JAKE looks at his watch thinking maybe it is time to go.

CARLOS

Karen! How are you. No, can't talk right now. Kind of busy. Yes I will call. Promise. I will call. Ok I am really kind of busy right now. Ok. Yes, you too.

JAKE

Wow look at the time. I don't want to keep you.

CARLOS

I want to keep you

JAKE

OMG another pickup line

(Sinatra song comes on, "As Time Goes By")

CARLOS

Romantic right?

JAKE

Did you plan this?

CARLOS

I have been planning for you my whole life

JAKE

You are

CARLOS pulls Jake in again for a kiss. He sings as he kisses and caresses JAKE. This is very romantic.

CARLOS SINGS

THE NIGHT IS SLIPPING BY

He turns JAKE gently around then leans JAKE back in a dance move, JAKE in his arms.

BEFORE YOU GO WHY NOT GIVE US A TRY

CARLOS pulls JAKE up and back in his arms. JAKE is flustered

COME ON DANCE WITH ME, COME ON

IT'S JUST A DANCE

IT'S A SLOW SONG

CARLOS inviting JAKE to sing.

JAKE & CARLOS SING

IT'S A SLOW SONG

AND THAT'S WHERE YOU AND I BELONG

THIS IS NOT ROMANCE

CARLOS

Well...

JAKE SINGS

THIS IS NOT ROMANCE

CARLOS SINGS

AWE COME ON

JAKE & CARLOS SING

IT'S JUST A DANCE

Phone rings. CARLOS steps away. We do not hear ROBIN on the phone, only Carlos' responses. CARLOS has his eyes on JAKE. Keeping JAKE engaged in the moment.

CARLOS

Robin. Hey. No. I am busy right now. I am at the bar. No. Don't come down. I will call you later. I will. I am kind of busy right now.

(MORE)

Ok Ok.

CARLOS hangs up.

JAKE

It sounds like you are busy and

CARLOS

And I want to be busy with you.

JAKE

You really need to update those lines

CARLOS

Maybe you can teach me?

JAKE

Oh I am sure that you don't need to be taught

CARLOS moves in a kisses JAKE
again. JAKE laughs as he says

Anything!

CARLOS

But I do need something?

JAKE

And what is that?

CARLOS

Your phone number because I can't remember
mine.

JAKE

JAKE sighs.

You want to get out of here?

CARLOS

I am just waiting on you to ask

JAKE SINGS

Remember this is not romance.

CARLOS

He pulls Jake in for one final
full on kiss

Oh, ok, what is this, then

JAKE SINGS

IT'S JUST A DANCE

We hear Sinatra sing "New York New
York "Start spreading the news..."
Jake and Carlos leave the bar

END OF SCENE.

ACT I - SCENE 4: MORE GOING DOWN - 4-YEARS AGO + 10 MIN

In the background we hear "*Father
Figure*" by George Michael.

Split rooms with Karen on one
side, Robin on another. The space
for each is just a suggestion of
an apartment for each.

They are in the same moment, just not together. Once the stage is set the background music fades out.

This follows the INTRODUCTION of Jake and Carlos. KAREN enters to her room. ROBIN enters to his. Then the lights dim on Robin. He sits in his chair taking notes on "The Plan."

Karen is pacing. Looking at her watch, mutters, "always late" she takes out the phone and calls Carlos. This is the other side of the previous conversation. We now hear both sides of the conversation. CARLOS is light, fun. KAREN is irritated.

KAREN

Carlos, where are you?

CARLOS

Karen!

KAREN

Carlos we had plans for tonight.

CARLOS

Hi! How are you?

KAREN

I said we had plans tonight.

CARLOS

No, can't talk right now. Kind of busy.

KAREN

Yes but we had plans, I have been waiting.

CARLOS

Yes I will call. Promise.

KAREN

You always do this to me. Will you call me later?

CARLOS

I will call. Ok I am really kind of busy right now.

KAREN

You will call right?

CARLOS

Ok.

KAREN

You are going to call? What time? When?

CARLOS

Yes,

KAREN

Carlos!

CARLOS

You too.

KAREN

Ok bye.

Damn. WHO is he with now. I have been waiting. WE had dinner plans. It was always the two of us. Always. I don't like this. This is not right. I do everything for him. Everything. This is not going to continue. Things will change. It's like I only matter when it is convenient for him. Oh but then, Carlos is so...CARRRLOS he makes you feel special even though you are not.

It is like the moment there is someone else, I get the back seat. Oh I get to go along sometimes. There we are, the three of us, Carlos, Sam and Karen. Carlos, Fred and Karen. Ah poor Fred. Carlos, Robin and Karen. I never liked Robin. Never. That one is trouble. Something about him I never liked. Secrets. He has secrets. Robin has secrets. Carlos and Robin have secrets together. Always talking hush-hush. I don't trust Robin. I don't like the control he has over Carlos. Then when Carlos drops them, or they drop out of sight, who does Carlos call? Me. "Oh Karen, I'm lonely. Oh Karen let's get together." All I do is wait for him.

The song queues "*More Going Down*" KAREN is frustrated, yet still in love with CARLOS. She moves from hopeful to angry to scorned. She paces as she sings.

SONG: MORE GOING DOWN

KAREN SINGS

I SIT BY THE PHONE
YOU SAID THAT YOU WOULD CALL
THERE'S SO MUCH TO TELL YOU
REMEMBER OUR TIME LAST FALL

(KAREN pauses and thinks, then smiles)

REMEMBER OUR FIRST KISS
THAT MOMENT IS TOPS ON MY LIST
AN HOUR GOES BY AND I WONDER WHY YOU HAVEN'T CALLED.

The lights come up on ROBIN. He takes out his phone. ROBIN calls KAREN.

ROBIN is cool, easy, smooth. In this scene he must convince KAREN to believe that he is also a victim of the affections of CARLOS. It is pivotal to the entire scene that we see ROBIN evolve, even though KAREN does not. ROBIN needs an AWARD-WINNING performance. We are about to see greatness as ROBIN does the change up to convince KAREN that he is scorned, as well, by CARLOS.

KAREN

She looks at the phone, sighs, she is irritated.

God I never liked him.

She answers the phone. Irritated

Robin. What?

ROBIN

Upbeat

Hey have you heard from Carlos? He and I were

KAREN

What? No, *Carlos and I had plans.* (sarcastic)
Didn't you two break up?

ROBIN

Well not officially.

KAREN

I heard it was over for months. But hey what do I know.

ROBIN

I see you are your typical "upbeat and fun self"

KAREN

Yea, well fuck you. Bye.

ROBIN

Miserable woman.

ROBIN smiles to himself. KAREN continues to vent.

KAREN

I pick up his laundry. God I hate Robin. Hate him. He should have been gone a long time ago. Why is he still around? "*Karen, hi!*" Secrets. Robin has secrets. Carlos, that bastard. They have secrets. I don't like secrets. Why did he not get rid of Robin like a suggested. I make his deposits. I balance his books. We spend every Friday evening together. We snuggle, we make popcorn and watch bad movies. Carlos makes me laugh.

KAREN SINGS

I WONDER NOW AM I THE ONLY ONE
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT
THAN JUST THE SUN

KAREN Sighs. She leaves the stage.
The lights go dark on Karen's
Apartment.

The scene moves to ROBIN.

ROBIN Calls CARLOS.

We hear the voice of CARLOS.
ROBIN is on the phone.

ROBIN is the one in charge. He is
checking in on the "PLAN." CARLOS
is light, ROBIN wants an update.

ROBIN

Carlos, are you with Jake?

CARLOS

Robin!

ROBIN

So did you get him yet?

CARLOS

Hey. No.

ROBIN

Did you make a move on him?

CARLOS

I am busy right now.

ROBIN

Are you back at your place?

CARLOS

I am at the bar.

ROBIN

So you didn't leave yet?

CARLOS

No.

ROBIN

Robin Laughs and says in a teasing
voice

Do I have to come down there and do this
myself?

CARLOS

Don't come down.

ROBIN

Stick to the plan.

CARLOS

I will call you later.

ROBIN

Did you play Sinatra? He loves Sinatra

CARLOS

I will.

ROBIN

Did you use those one-liners we practiced?

CARLOS

I am kind of busy right now.

ROBIN

Well call me later?

CARLOS

Ok Ok. (he hangs up)

ROBIN

Yes, bye

Robin paces. He thinks. He is practicing his "lines" to sound convincing. We watch this man "practice" in front of us.

Once again. That man stands me up." No too happy.

He paces again. Muttering. Trying different inflections.

"Once again." No. (Again) "Once again." Shit not right. I got to be able to make this work. Karen will know if I lie. I got to sound, hurt. Yea that's it. Like I will take action against Carlos the Mother Fu... (he laughs) "Carlos the Mother F...that's funny. I am the tough one here. Ok I got it.

He shakes it off. He turns his back. We are about to see a performance of a man who has had enough.

He pretends he is hanging up the phone again.

Yea. Bye

And so we begin to see the transformation. This must be 110% convincing of a hurt, cast-aside-for-someone-else lover. ROBIN turns around to the audience.

"Once again. That man stands me up. All week"

ROBIN is liking the sound of his voice, he sounds convincing, he smiles to himself.

Yes that is what it should sound like. I know more....

He paces gets back into character.

KNOCK and the door opens, KAREN Enters

ROBIN

Karen? What are you doing here?

KAREN

Robin, I am tired of getting stood up by Carlos. I have had it.

ROBIN realizes that this is he chance to "Convince" Karen that he is also "hurt." ROBIN continues with his "hurt and rejected" feelings Feeding off of Karen.

ROBIN

Don't start with me on, Carlos. Once again. That man stands me up. All week. All the time I get from him

Imitating his low sexy voice

"Baby I'll come over Thursday, come on we can go dancing."

Now back to his voice with the anger building.

Bullshit. That's what it is. He strings you along and along and along and then nothing.

KAREN

KAREN looks at ROBIN. She is not sure of this "anger" that ROBIN is displaying. Yet, she is getting convinced that maybe that have something in common. They will not be buddies but share a common desire to take CARLOS down. Their dialogue is rapid fire. The intensity of their emotions build as the talk and sing.

I bet he has somebody new.

ROBIN

Some new "what's his name?" Are you kidding me?

ROBIN AND KAREN

I remember when I was the one who turned his head.

They look uneasy at each, realizing that they share the same disconnected feeling with Carlos

KAREN

What?

ROBIN

Well, I was

KAREN

Please not now with that. Let's stay on Carlos. I have issues with the two of you but we'll get to that another time.

ROBIN

ROBIN doesn't pause on that line. He IS convincing KAREN. He keeps on track. ROBIN picks up the pace and anger even more.

I didn't change he did

KAREN

And then you feel like it's your fault. I wait and I wait.

ROBIN

And I wait. He moves on and comes back.

KAREN

I do anything and everything he says, just to be near him.

ROBIN

He has the last word, every word. I am not putting up with another year or week of disappointments. Hold on.

KAREN

What?

ROBIN

I am calling him now.

ROBIN calls CARLOS. It goes to voice mail.

CARLOS VOICEMAIL

Hey it's Carlos. I'll call back

Robin

ROBIN hangs up. The pace continues to build.

"I'll call back" right.

KAREN

Robin, I never thought that I would say this but we are a lot alike.

ROBIN

What do you mean?

KAREN

We have both been pushed aside by Carlos.

The song queues back up. Although these two will sing together, there is no bond between them. ROBIN continues to lead KAREN into believing that he has been hurt. This is all an act and part of "The Plan."

ROBIN SINGS

I THOUGHT IT WAS ME

(Robin pauses, takes a breath)

ROBIN SINGS
I THOUGHT IT WAS ME

KAREN SINGS (ECHOES)
I THOUGHT IT WAS ME

ROBIN & KAREN SING
PERHAPS I WANT TO MUCH

ROBIN SINGS
I TOLD MYSELF THIS IS FINE

ROBIN & KAREN SINGS
IF WE ARE SLIGHTLY OUT OF TOUCH

CARLOS SINGS
IF WE ARE CHANGING LANES

KAREN SINGS
WHY CAN'T WE BE THE SAME

CARLOS SINGS
AN EVEING GOES BY

KAREN SINGS
I WONDER WHY YOU HAVEN'T CALLED

ROBIN & KAREN SING

They each take a stand in their
space.

I WONDER NOW AM I THE ONLY ONE
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TO NIGHT
THEN JUST THE SUN
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT

ROBIN and KAREN play off of each
other. They build an uneasy bond
as they both have been set aside
by CARLOS.

ROBIN SINGS

THE TALK AROUND THE TOWN

KAREN SINGS

IS THERE IS MORE GOING DOWN

ROBIN & KAREN SING

THEN JUST THE SUN WITH YOU AND I

Hold that note, letting in linger,
fade and then fall off.

NOW AM I OK

KAREN echoes the line.

KAREN SINGS

TODAY I HEARD THE NEWS

ROBIN SINGS

Now the "anger is building"

YOU MOVED IN WITH WHAT'S THEIR NAME

ROBIN & KAREN SING

YOU DO WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE.

ROBIN SINGS

YOU TOLD ME, "I'LL SEE YOU AROUND"

KAREN SINGS

BUT THERE IS MORE GOING DOWN.

High tension she has had enough

THE SUN WILL RISE

ROBIN SINGS

High tension he has had enough

THE SUN WILL SET

ROBIN & KAREN SING

I WONDER NOW WAS I THE ONLY ONE?
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT THAN JUST THE SUN
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT

KAREN SINGS

THAN JUST THE SUN.

ROBIN SINGS

OHHH THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN

ROBIN & KAREN SING

YOU WILL GO DOWN.

KAREN looks at ROBIN, eyes him up
and down. Not sure. But, she is
convinced for now. She returns to
her cold, detached self.

KAREN

While I do not like you

ROBIN

Thanks, I appreciate that honesty

KAREN

She ignores his line, like she
never heard it.

While I do not like you, I like being used even
less. Damn Carlos.

ROBIN

Wait till I see him

KAREN

Not if I see him first. I am leaving.

ROBIN

Karen you want to stay for a drink?

KAREN

Let's not get too friendly.

KAREN leaves. ROBIN waits,
watches her leave and then smiles.

ROBIN

Now in a sinister voice, plotting
the plan feeling ROBIN Calls
CARLOS. It goes to a voicemail

CARLOS VOICEMAIL

Hey it's Carlos. I'll call back

ROBIN

Hey, this plan is gonna work. Trust me

ROBIN hangs up. He smiles. ROBIN
is pacing, talking to himself,
practicing his "scene"

Once again. That man stands me up.

Again with more feeling portraying
his "anger"

Once again. That man stands me up

He smiles to himself.

Robin sings in a light reflective
tone, smiling

ROBIN SINGS

THE SUN WILL RISE. THE SUN WILL SET.

He smiles. Very proud of himself.

THE SUN WILL RISE. THE SUN WILL SET. THERE'S MORE GOING
DOWN THAN JUST THE SUN.

Lights dim as the scene is set for
the office. ROBIN exits and takes
whatever he can. JAKE assists to
set up the office.

Whitney Houston "How Will I Know"
plays as the scene is getting set.

**SCENE 5: ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE - 3-DAYS BEFORE TODAY -
ROSES HAVE LOST THEIR SCENT**

JAKE is at a desk , laptop working
on numbers, MITCH walks in, he has
roses behind his back.

JAKE does not see this. The song fades as MITCH speaks.

MITCH

Jake, how is the report coming?

MITCH goes behind JAKE and looks over his shoulder. He gently puts his hand on JAKE'S shoulder. JAKE is unaware of the feelings that MITCH has for him.

When will that be finished?

JAKE

Involved in the work, not noticing MITCH very much. Not rude just not getting that MITCH is interested.

It is good. I should wrap this up in just a minute.

MITCH

Surprise!

He hands the flowers to JAKE.

JAKE

Surprise? Wow, what is this for? Thank you!

MITCH

Our anniversary!

JAKE

"Our Anniversary" ? Anniversary of...

MITCH

Of being together.

JAKE

Together?

MITCH

Yes! Together!

MITCH is awkward as he has missed a beat. He attempts to laugh this off to save himself from being embarrassed.

Together at work. Yes, that's what I meant, of course working together. It seems like yesterday. Do you remember that weekend we took back then to the beach in Cancun? That was a great time

JAKE

Yes that was a great time. Then I met Carlos.

MITCH

Reminiscent he is not looking for, at this point an acknowledgement from JAKE. MITCH likes remembering.

I used to turn your head, remember? You still turn my head.

JAKE

Really? I've been with Carlos now for 4-years

MITCH

Reminiscent

And we would go out for drinks

JAKE

We haven't done that in a long time.

MITCH

MITCH pauses and remembers thoughtfully and now back to the present with a light hearted voice.

We don't go out any more.

JAKE

Mitch we haven't gone out in years, I am with Carlos, remember

MITCH

Reminiscent

I remember that trip. I should have made a move on you.

JAKE

Ah Mitch, come on, what a teaser you are.

MITCH

I am not teasing.

He pauses and smells the roses

Funny.

Jake

Funny? What's funny?

Mitch

Roses. They have lost their scent.

(Jake smells the roses)

When did that happen?

Jake

Yeah you are right. Well scent or no scent they are beautiful. Thank you.

Mitch

Jake you are welcome. You deserve that and a lot more. You do great work.

Jake

Thanks, Mitch. I like working for you.

Mitch

I like you working for me. It feels good. Hey you want to go get a drink since you are wrapping this up?

JAKE

Hey! Remember you were the bartender that night I met Carlos?

MITCH

You remember me?

JAKE

Well I don't remember much about that night it was such blur. I remember that there were Sinatra songs playing.

MITCH

Those damn Sinatra songs.

JAKE

What?

MITCH

Nothing.

Changing the mood

So how about that drink?

JAKE

Thanks, I will pass. I have been working late the last week and Carlos will kill me if don't get home early.

MITCH

Carlos. You like him?

JAKE

Yes. We have been together 4 years now.

MITCH

Isn't he kind of demanding? He can be a hard-ass.

JAKE

He gets up as he is finished

Well sometimes he is, but you work with him. You know. He tries to be this big Latin tiger, but he is really a pussy cat.

MITCH

Jake, I care about you. If you ever need anything or in trouble I am here for you.

JAKE

Mitch, thanks. I care about you, too.

MITCH

You care about me?

Mitch moves in close and takes
Jake's arm

I knew it. I knew you did. If I ever thought that Carlos hurt you, I, I could not, I would not stand for it

JAKE

Mitch, that is sweet. No, no worries on that. I am good.

Jake pulls back a bit. Friendly

MITCH

Sweet? I don't want to be sweet. I care about you, Jake.

JAKE

(getting awkward)

I know, I know.

MITCH

You know?

JAKE

Mitch, I thank you so much. I know you have my back.

MITCH

I would like to get you on your back.

JAKE

Ha you are funny. What a teaser.

MITCH

I am not teasing.

MITCH moves in face to face. Now
in a low sexy tone.

So how about that drink? Let's see If I can
turn your head again.

MITCH kisses Jake.

JAKE

JAKE is surprised. He tries to
quickly make light of this moment
and not offend MITCH.

Ok Ok, Mitch go easy. I would love to but I do
need to go. Carlos you know is waiting.

MITCH

He moves in and kisses Jake,
again'

Come on Jake. Come on.

JAKE

Hey, ah Mitch Ok Ok.

Mitch Kisses jake again

Hey, Mitch. Easy, Easy cowboy. Have you been
drinking?

Trying to lighten the mood

As Cher would say, "Snap out of it."

MITCH

What does Cher have to do with us?

JAKE

Mitch? Come on, "Moonstruck?"

MITCH

MITCH does not get the CHER reference. He is on one-track to get JAKE to be with him and not CARLOS.

Jake, I love you. I have had feelings for you for years.

JAKE

Come on, no? I am sorry. I didn't know

MITCH

MITCH shakes his head. He cannot believe that JAKE is unaware of his affections

How could you not know? I mean, I am always looking to you. I have loved you since the first time I saw you.

JAKE

Mitch, I didn't see it that way. We had that one weekend then I got with Carlos. I didn't know that you felt that way.

MITCH

FELT? I feel this way now. It is obvious. I couldn't say much louder.

JAKE

Well, yes you could've just said it out loud.

MITCH

OK, Jake, I love you. Dump Carlos. I could take care of you, always.

JAKE

Mitch, thank you for that, but, I am with Carlos I don't need to be taken care of. I never thought about being with you. I mean you are a super guy, nice, easy.

MITCH

MITCH is about to turn as he is not getting what he wants. MITCH is getting angry and frustrated.

Nice? I am nice?

JAKE

No, no that's not what I meant. I mean I never thought about you in a romantic way. I am mean you are sexy. Sweet. Wonderful.

MITCH

Sweet? Nice? Am I too late? Jake I want you. Could you want me? Well could you? Could you love me?

JAKE

Mitch, ah,

MITCH

Jake, I am perfect for you. You are perfect for me.

JAKE

I don't do "perfect" that well. And Mitch there is someone for you.

MITCH

Yes! You, Jake!

MITCH moves in and forces another
kiss on JAKE.

Jake, I need you.

JAKE

JAKE breaks the hold and takes a
few feet away stance.

Mitch, no, no come on now. No.

MITCH

Jake I have always seen us together. I mean
together, forever. Just you and I. That's why
I hired you. You are talented and I just
wanted and want you around me, always. Can't
you see that? Jake, tell me you did not know
that I have feelings for you?

JAKE

Mitch, I thought you were being, nice.

MITCH

MITCH is about to explode.

Nice? NICE? Again with the nice. Fuck that, I
don't want to be "nice"

JAKE

Mitch, I am sorry. I should go. Carlos is
waiting.

MITCH

Carlos is trouble. He is not right for you.
He has to go.

JAKE

Mitch, that is not for you to decide. "Has to
go" what does that mean?

MITCH

He is not the one for you.

JAKE

And you know who is?

MITCH

I do and so do you if you would open your eyes.
I am right here. I am perfect for you.

MITCH grabs JAKE, forces another
kiss on him.

JAKE tries to back up an MITCH
hits JAKE and he falls.

I am right for you. I am perfect for you.

MITCH growls.

You will come to see that.

Mitch pulls Jake by the shirt

Do you understand?

JAKE

Jake gets up. Shakes it off.
Stunned that he got hit. He rubs
his jaw.

Ok, this got out of hand. I am gonna go.
Let's just forget this. I'll take a raincheck
on that drink. I promise. Again, I am sorry
that I did not know. And it is nice, you are
nice. I mean thank you for sharing that with
me.

JAKE leaves. He leaves the
flowers.

MITCH

Jake. Jake! You left the roses. I'm sorry.

Brooding, talking to himself.

Idiot. I am such an idiot. That was embarrassing. I looked like such a fool.

He smells the flowers.
Roses with no sent, lousy roses.

He tosses them in the trash)

How could he not know? Nice? Nice? I have been so clear with him. So I hit him, stupid thing to do, but he deserved that.

He now moves to a plot to kill
Carlos

Carlos is trouble. He is nothing. He is not the person for my Jake. If he was not around, I know my Jake would see it my way. Our way. It is so clear. Jake belongs to me. I did not have this wrong. He knew I loved him. That I do love him that we are perfect. So I hit him. He had that coming. Telling me "i didn't know." I will not be just another rose.
Nice...

SONG: ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE

MITCH SINGS

I WHISPERED IN THE DARKNESS, "HELLO"

I WAS LOOKING FOR THE ONE I USED TO KNOW.

I WAS LONGING FOR OUR DAYS IN THE SUN

I REMEMBER WHEN I WAS THE ONLY ONE

WHO COULD TURN YOUR HEAD

BUT NOW INSTEAD I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE

AND I USED TO TURN YOUR HEAD , BUT NOW INSTEAD

I'M JUST ANOHTER ROSE ON YOUR VINE

AND IN THE SHADOWS I COULD HIDE

AND ALL MY WORRIES WOULD STAY DEEP INSIDE.
MY OLD MEMORIES TOOK A HOLD OF ME
AND NOW I AM NOT HALF THE MAN I USED TO BE.

WHO COULD TURN YOUR HEAD
BUT NOW INSTEAD I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE
AND I USED TO TURN YOUR HEAD , BUT NOW INSTEAD
I'M JUST ANOHTER ROSE ON YOUR VINE

KAREN ENTERS. She is matter-of-fact. MITCH is startled.

KAREN
Oh *that* went well, Mitch. Bravo!

MITCH
Karen, what the hell are you doing here.

KAREN
Drama. I just love a little drama, don't you

She laughs.

MITCH
When did you get here?

KAREN
What are you going through, Mitch. And oh, nice slap down. Poor Jake.

MITCH
What did you see?

KAREN
Everything. The roses. The "Roses have no scent." You making your move. Playing your hand. USING your hand. Ouf I didn't see that coming. DING DING ROUND ONE over. Jake was down for the count! The awkward series of kisses. Ohhh my

She laughs.

MITCH
Look you told me to make a move. You said "Carlos and Jake are splitting up."

KAREN

Mitch, Mitch, Mitch. You should listen closely. I said, "I *think* Carlos and Jake are having trouble."

MITCH

No. You said, "Jake talks about you all the time, Mitch. Carlos has not been paying enough attention to Jake." That's what you said, Karen.

KAREN

Well, I might have (she pauses) over-dramatized the situation a little bit. Mamma does like a little drama to spice things up!

MITCH

You told me, Karen, I should make a move.

KAREN

A move yes, Mitch. Not a slap down. Ouf!

She laughs as she says the next
line

Jake to the floor. Mitch is the winner of Round One!

MITCH

I looked like an idiot.

KAREN

She Laughs again as she speaks
these lines as well. KAREN is
enjoying this.

Look. You Look like an idiot. Present tense.
Mitch, my dear, you slapped Jake down!

MITCH

He deserved that. You set me up.

KAREN

Mitch calm down. We can fix this.

MITCH SINGS

NOW IT SEEMS I'VE LEARNED TOO MUCH TOO LATE

NOW I'VE BECOME A PAWN OF TWISTED FATE

NOW I JOIN THE CLUB OF BROKEN HEARTS

NOW IT'S CRYSTAL CLEAR TO ME

KAREN SINGS WITH MITCH

THAT LOVE IS AN ART

MITCH SINGS, KAREN HUMS

AND I USED TURN YOUR HEAD

BUT NOW INSTEAD I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE

KAREN SINGS ALONG ADDS HARMONY

AND I USED TO TURN YOUR HEAD , BUT NOW INSTEAD

I'M JUST ANOHTER ROSE ON YOUR VINE

Mitch

Still brooding.

If Jake can't see that I am right for him, that it is me or no one. I will make him see things my way.

KAREN

Now, Mitch you are getting yourself all worked up.

MITCH

I will help him along to see it my way. Things are going to be different.

KAREN

What about Carlos?

MITCH

Carlos is out. Mitch is in. Jake will understand and thank me for this. Carlos I am coming for you.

Lights dim.

END OF SCENE

Billy Joel "Movin' Out" intro as the lights come up.

**SCENE 6 KAREN AND CARLOS AND JAKE - 2-DAYS BEFORE - BLONDES
HAVE MORE FUN**

JAKE and CARLOS set up the apartment as the scene starts and the BILLY JOEL song is in the background. The office moves off stage and the apartment of Jake and Carlos comes on stage. The couch, lamp and chair are in the room. As the stage is getting set, JAKE and CARLOS are arguing. This is the same set from the beginning (Scene 2) We don't hear them but it is apparent that JAKE is upset and CARLOS is trying to calm him down.

The scene is in four key segments: 1) The argument with JAKE and CARLOS and KAREN'S entrance; 2) The conversation with KAREN (now a blonde) and CARLOS; 3) The re-entrance of JAKE and CARLOS' attempt to win JAKE back; 4) The PLAN reveal with CARLOS and ROBIN.

The scene will move quickly and tensions are high. Karen antagonizes Jake. Everyone will change up emotions and points of view in this scene.

Underlying everything is the FACT that this is all part of ROBIN and CARLOS' "PLAN."

Karen will enter, no knock

The song "Movin Out" will fade as the conversation starts.)

With the stage set we now here the conversation. CARLOS, at this point is trying to soothe JAKE. Jake is irritated and has had it.

CARLOS

Let's not get into this now

Billy Joel "good luck 'cause I'm movin' out" song ends.

JAKE is irritated.

JAKE

When would breaking up work for you.

CARLOS

Look we are not breaking up. You are mad. I get it. I am sorry.

JAKE

No I am not mad, Carlos, I am done.

CARLOS

CARLOS mood change now taking control.

Believe me you are NOT done.

Forceful. MOOD CHANGE.

You are staying right here. You belong to me.

KAREN opens the door and walks in. KAREN'S hair is now blonde it was dark before. JAKE is upset. CARLOS irritated that KAREN has entered. KAREN is the ALPHA and has no concern or care. KAREN is here to seduce and "win back CARLOS."

KAREN

She walks over and kisses CARLOS on the cheek, she gives a chilly nod to JAKE,

Carlos, wonderful to see you. You missed me, yes? I thought so. Hello, Jakey.

JAKE

He rolls his eyes.

It's Jake. Jake. Karen, do you ever knock?

KAREN

Why did I interrupt something? Oh sorry. Well, anyway Carlos always says I can come anytime.

JAKE

You should knock. Knock. You know that word "Knock"?

KAREN

Karen gives JAKE a look of disdain. She puts her arm around CARLOS.

I am welcome anytime, CARLOS says so.

JAKE

Carlos? Anything?

CARLOS

Jake, relax, it's just Karen.

JAKE

That's great. Just great.

KAREN

How easy was that? All set with you Jakey?

JAKE

Getting more irritated.

Please do not call me "Jakey"

KAREN

Carlos calls you "Jakey"

CARLOS laughs a bit.

JAKE

Yes. That is CARLOS. That is not you.

KAREN

Touchy. Someone is having a little fit, today.

JAKE

Karen

CARLOS

Jake it's ok. Relax.

JAKE

I am gonna take off, I got work to do. Mitch called me, he needs help at the office.

KAREN

Oh don't go because of me.

JAKE

When you are leaving?

KAREN

Later.

JAKE

Great. Carlos I'll be back, later. Text me when you are free so we can continue our conversation.

KAREN

What are you two lovebirds talking about?

CARLOS

Karen, go easy.

JAKE

Karen.

KAREN

She laughs.

You didn't leave yet? I had already forgotten you. The door is that way

JAKE

JAKE trying to mimic the same disdain that KAREN shows him. He speaks with a dry wit.

Karen, really you are a Blonde? Great color, it looks so natural on you.

KAREN

Oh thanks, I am glad you noticed! Blondes do have more fun.

JAKE

JAKE looks at CARLOS to gain a reaction. Nothing from CARLOS.

Sarcasm. That was sarcasm. It's looks like shit. But you wear it well.

JAKE leaves. KAREN takes out a nail file and sharpens her nails.

CARLOS

Jake. Jake!

JAKE does not respond.

KAREN

He is such a boy. Moody.

CARLOS

Karen, you are too hard on him. And he is MY boy.

KAREN

KAREN still filing the nails

Hmm?

CARLOS

Karen! Are you listening?

KAREN

What? Did I miss something? Is Jakey still having a tantrum? Maybe you need to put him in his playpen.

CARLOS

Don't call him "Jakey" You know that irritates him.

KAREN

Well, you do. And I know it irritates him. THAT is the point.

CARLOS

Just ease up on him.

KAREN

Why do you call him "Jakey"

CARLOS

Yes, well that's my pet name for him.

KAREN

Oh

She ponders a moment then says
the name outload a few times
laughing as she does so" "Jakey"
"Jakey" (she groans) "Oh Jakey"

CARLOS

Ok, ok

He smiles.

KAREN

And what is his pet name for you?

CARLOS

CARLOS blushes. Then PUFFS UP
proud.

"Papi Chulo"

He flexes and grabs his crotch as
well to make the point.

KAREN

"Papi Chulo" now isn't that ...cute.

JAKE comes back in, bustling
through.

Oh look who is back?

JAKE

I forgot my phone. Karen. Back off. I am
telling you, back off.

JAKE gets his phone and goes to
head out.

KAREN

Well "Papi Chulo" and I will be right here.

JAKE stops dead and turns

JAKE

What did you say?

He looks at CARLOS. CARLOS is embarrassed and looks away.

What did she just say?

KAREN

Snuggles into CARLOS' arm.

"Papi Chulo" what did I say something wrong? I like it, "Papi Chulo. (she groans) "Oh, Papi Chulo."

JAKE

Looking at CARLOS.

Carlos? Unbelievable.

JAKE leaves.

CARLOS

Karen.

KAREN

What? What did I do? Jakey all upset now. Jakey gonna cry. Jakey gonna leave.

CARLOS

Stop.

He pulls away from Karen.
Enough. Give it a rest.

KAREN

Ouf. Another touchy one! A women doesn't feel safe with all this hostility around her.

Very Dramatic tone

I feel threatened! I feel threatened!

She laughs.

So what do you think?

She does a Betty Boop move to show
off her blonde hair)

CARLOS

Distracted

Think about what?

KAREN

She repeats the move and further
accents the hair color change.
Karen has the plan of winning back
CARLOS right now.

CARLOS

Still Distracted.

Oh, the hair. Sure. Nice.

KAREN

Well, I have heard "That Blondes have all the
fun!" Remember...you and I? On the beach. That
song we used to sing

KAREN does an acapella version of
"Seasons In The Sun"

KAREN SINGS

WE HAD JOY WE HAD FUN WE HAD SEASONS IN THE SUN!

CARLOS

Light laugh

Yes I remember.

KAREN

Those were great times.

CARLOS

Yes there were.

KAREN

You were good for me. I was good for you.

CARLOS

Yes.

KAREN

KAREN moves in and kisses CARLOS on the LIPS. CARLOS doesn't react.

So...

CARLOS

Karen, come on, we've been through this and you know that I like men.

KAREN

I know you like men, now, and I thought maybe you might like me, again?

KAREN plays sexy and she kisses CARLOS on the neck. CARLOS is trying to stay focused. "THE PLAN" is in his head. He needs KAREN so he has got to go easy.

CARLOS

Ah Karen, You know I like you. You are my best friend. You always

KAREN continue to kiss his neck. CARLOS is not responding.

KAREN

I know "I have your back, I listen, I am ready to do anything."

KAREN stops suddenly. She steps back like she has seen a ghost. She speaks in a dramatic and "I-am-the-last-to-know tone of voice"

Oh My GOD

She gasps. She gets up and repeats herself, Frantic. CARLOS is not sure what is going on.

OH MY GOD. OH MY GOD. Oh my GOOOOOOOOOOD.

CARLOS

Karen, What?

KAREN

KAREN moves to the chair and sits. She speaks in a sad, bland tone, like she is speaking a well know fact.

I am a Fag Hag.

CARLOS

No. You are not

KAREN

Yes. I have become the best-friend-Fag-Haaaaaaaaaaaaag. What was I thinking?

CARLOS

What do you mean?

KAREN

Jesus. I, I

KAREN pulls the blond wig off. She is embarrassed and could kick herself. She speaks very plainly like she is speak age-old truths.

(MORE)

I put on this stupid wig, trying to get your attention. I think I can rekindle an old flame. God this is so depressing. I feel like such a fool.

CARLOS

Trying to ease her.

No Karen

KAREN

A "Fag Hag" I am a goddamned Fag Hag to Carlos!

CARLOS

Karen no you are not.

KAREN

She gets up. She is late to the party in realizing that she is a "FAG HAG." She gives CARLOS "The HAND."

Carlos, do not interrupt me. All I do for you. I am there for you. When you broke up with Robin I was there. When you had a fling and then finished with Harry, I was there. I took care of Fred. Do you remember?

CARLOS

Karen, now let's bring that up.

KAREN

But, Carlos, I took care of Fred.

KAREN speaking like CARLOS.

"We need to get rid of him, Karen....Fred Knows too much, Karen.." Jesus. "Fred is dead" remember that Carlos?

CARLOS

Yes, yes I remember.

KAREN

And?

CARLOS

And what?

KAREN

Thank you? I took care of Fred. Fred is gone.
Fred is dead.

KAREN groans and changes the mood

Anyway, We drank ourselves blind over the split
with Juan, or John or what was his name...

Carlos

Craig. His name was

Karen

KAREN is on a roll now, getting
more angry, realizing that she is
in fact a "Fag Hag" She again
gives CARLOS "The Hand."

Do not jump in here. Craig. Oh Craig! That
one was such a loser. Weak. They all have
been weak. I am not weak. I showed YOU things.
I introduced you to wine and fashion and art
and business. You could not balance a book.
Sure, you look good and God knows you are
smooth. You can talk the wings off of an
angel. Damnit, I hate you for that. I have
wasted so much time, just waiting for you.
Season after season after month after year.
Waiting for you, Carlos. Snow turns into rain
into summer into fall. We have hot chocolate
the first snow every year. And for the record
I think of you every God-Damned time that song
plays.

CARLOS

What song.

KAREN

Jesus! Keep up! That song. That song. *Dan
Fogelberg.*

KAREN SINGS

*MET MY OLD LOVER AT THE GROCERY STORE. THE SNOW WAS FALLING
CHRISTMAS EVE*

CARLOS

He smiles

Oh yea. I remember

CARLOS SINGS

AND THEN I TURNED TO MAKE MY WAY BACK HOME

KAREN AND CARLOS SING

THE SNOW TURNED INTO RAIN

Gently with reminiscent tone

They pause. Both not sure what to do with that memory. Awkward pause. KAREN picks back up. Sad for the first sentence then quickly back on her pace/rage.

KAREN

I never liked when "snow turned into rain." I was ready at any moment to be with you, go with you, anything just to be close. I waited for you.

KAREN BUILDS in emotion she takes over.

I am the one for you. The men will always come and go because that is what men do. Men are pigs. Men don't care. Men don't get you like I get you. Did you not know? And this new one, JAKEY, God, I hate him. You know why? Do you really know why?

She looks at CARLOS.

Carlos!

CARLOS

What? You told me not to interrupt.

KAREN

Well keep up.

CARLOS

Ok Ok. What?

KAREN

Do you know why I really hate this new one, Jakey?

CARLOS

I am not sure why we are having this conversation?

KAREN

Because He doesn't deserve you.

CARLOS

CARLOS looks. Pauses. He is gaining his control of the scene back He is now irritated.

What does that mean?

As KAREN speaks, CARLOS is getting frustrated and not going to go along with KAREN'S claims or accusations. CARLOS is *PAPI CHULO*. CARLOS will react with facial expressions and movements and KAREN will attempt to shut him down. These two are struggling for the "KING OF THE HILL." This should feel like we stepped into a boxing ring with these two. CARLOS should have movement here. He is not a wall flower.

KAREN

I mean that you are not a good person. I am not a good person. Jake is. And you are using him and you make people feel powerless. You are like a male Medusa. One look in those eyes and men are mesmerized, we are all cast under your spell. Jake loves you, I see that and he is going to get used up by you. Just like you did to everyone else, but me. You know why?

She looks at CARLOS. He has his back turned at this moment, brooding.

Carlos!

CARLOS

He turns. Gaining his power back.

What? Why?

KAREN

Because I am not a good person. We are not good people. We hurt people because we are self-centered, selfish people. Instant gratification is not fast enough for us. Jake is a good man and you are using him. I guess I am just a bit, unfriendly to Jake as I would like for him to leave, for his own good. And thus leave you to me, where you belong. And why is Robin still in the picture? Secrets. You two have *secrets*, and I don't like it. No one knows you like me. No one and that is a fact. You better wise up Mr. Diaz, because I have dirt on you. I know the people you do business with, the deals you make. I have the story about Fred.

CARLOS

CARLOS has had it. His voice is low and focused.

Karen, I would be very, very careful about what you say and the claims you think you know. Back off of Jake. Back off of Robin.

KAREN

Is that a threat?

She walks up to him and finger points his chest and taps on his chest with each word again.

IS THAT A THREAT?

She laughs coldly.

I dare you to stop me. If needed I will bring you down. You better cut off this Jakey thing now. End it. I don't like all of these secrets with Robin.

CARLOS

What secrets? What are you talking about?

KAREN

And while you are at it, get that Robin out of the picture. That little bird has been around too long. I don't like him. Never did. He has secrets. I don't like secrets. He has some hold on you. Knock it off. Get them both out of the picture, Or

CARLOS

CARLOS steps right up on her line. He stand up to her. KAREN is not intimidated.

Or what?

KAREN

She FINGER POINTS the next sentence in a loving tone. She speaks very sweetly in this next delivery.

You will be very happy with just me. You can have your men, but you will come home to me. We will be the power couple and you will always come home to me.

CARLOS

Karen that is not going to happen.

KAREN

You better get Jakey and his shit out of here. Pack up whatever loose ends you have with Robin. Momma needs some love.

She puts the blonde wig back on. The tenderness is gone. ALPHA WOMAN is back. She stands up. Smooth out her clothes. Takes out her compact and applies the REDDEST lipstick possible as she speaks. All matter-of-fact.

You know I think it IS true. This BLONDE is gonna have a lot more fun starting now.

She heads towards the door. She pauses and comes back and kisses CARLOS on the neck leaving a bold set of RED LIPS on his neck. MARKING her territory. She heads back to the door.

Papi Chulo, I'll see you soon. Remember we belong to each other. Right?

CARLOS

Sure. Karen, one more thing.

KAREN stops with her hand on the door and turns to CARLOS.

No one tells me what to do or when to do it. Who to love who not to love is that clear?

KAREN

Laughs

Oh Carlos, cut the drama. You and I will be together. You'll see. Just like before. I am here to help you, any way I can. Isn't that right

CARLOS

Brooding and sarcastic.

Sure.

KAREN

Good boy.

KAREN leaves

CARLOS is brooding

CARLOS

Good Boy? Good Boy? What a bitch. I "belong" to her. That's what she thinks. Jake Belongs to me. He is mine. I better get him in line. Stick to the plan. Jake belongs to me, MY JAKY.

Phone rings. We do not hear the voice. CARLOS looks at the caller ID. IT is ROBIN and he is checking on the status of "The PLAN."

CARLOS answers the phone. Ruff tone.

Robin. Yes? Ok. Things are ok. We got a few loose ends here. Nothing I can't handle. Me? No. Stay there till I call you. Yes we are on track. Jake? Yes he will be in line. Karen? Yes she may be a problem, but I got it. I said "I got it." Yea, I know. I know. Love you, too. Got to go. Ciao.

(Carlos hangs up and paces a bit he is thinking, planning)

If Karen thinks that I can be pressured to be with her, she can just try. Dirt on me? I am C L E A N (he spells it out) CLEAN. Her signatures are on the papers. If I go down, she will go down with me. "Power Couple" is she kidding? Carlos is king to Carlos the envy of everyone in this town. They will all stop and notice when I walk in the room, drive around town, show up to a restaurant, you wait and see. "Papi Chulo" is king.

CARLOS shakes it off and gets back into a character. CARLOS takes out his cell and calls JAKE. CARLOS sounds apologetic.

Jake, yea, I am sorry. Come on home. Yes, Karen left, don't worry about her. We need to figure things out. Ok on your way? Great.

CARLOS hangs up and goes back to his brooding and Karen. His mood changed back to brooding.

"Good Boy" I am not her "boy." She has nothing on me. Nothing.

JAKE enters. Carlos changes back his attitude.

Hey I am glad you are back. I am sorry.

CARLOS goes to JAKE and gives a hug, strong, and a full kiss.

JAKE

Ok ok, slow it down. What is on your neck?

CARLOS

Oh that is Karen.

JAKE

Karen? What? Why are her lips on your neck?

JAKE sighs. Shakes his head. JAKE backs up a few steps.

Karen? We need to talk.

CARLOS

I know. I have been a jerk. I should not have let Karen go on the way she did.

Jake

No. You have not been a jerk. You are a jerk. And she kisses you?

CARLOS

No that was nothing. That is nothing.

JAKE

Wait. Let me start. Please. It has been 4-years. Carlos I love you, I adore you, Papi Chulo, but I don't feel like I am the only one. It feels like there is always someone else around. Karen, they way you flirt, the hushed conversations. I got to get out of this. Away from you.

CARLOS

Jakey, you can't leave. I need you. I do.

JAKE

I think you would be fine. You are always fine.

SONG: WHAT IF

CARLOS SINGS

WHAT IF I SAID, "I LOVE YOU?"

WHAT IF I TOOK THE CHANCE?

JAKE

Carlos, don't

CARLOS moves in closer.

CARLOS SINGS

WHAT IF I STARTED BELIEVING?

JAKE

Carlos, I think it is too late. Stop you are just gonna make me fall for you, again.

CARLOS

Again?

JAKE

Over and over every time I look at you

CARLOS

(growls playfully)

JAKE

See? That. That is what you do to me.

CARLOS SINGS

WHAT IF THIS COULD BE THE ONE ROMANCE

THAT I HAVE WAITED FOR?

JAKE SINGS

WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE?

WHAT IF LOVE JUST COST A DIME?

BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT EASY WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.

CARLOS SINGS

IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL

JAKE SINGS

IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE

IT'S HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE.

CARLOS

Jake, I know that lately this has been rough
and I have not shown you how much I love you.
You and I are a team. People will be watching
us. Parties, restaurants, heads will turn.

JAKE

Carlos, I only want to turn one head, yours.

CARLOS

Jake we belong together. Trust me. You need me
and I need you.

JAKE turns and wipes his eyes.
CARLOS goes to hold him

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Jakey, come here.

CARLOS pulls JAKE in. As he sings
the next verse he kisses JAKE'S
eyes, his cheeks and gently on the
lips.

CARLOS SINGS

WHAT IF I SAID, "I'M SORRY?"

WHAT IF I COULD DRY YOUR TEARS?

WHAT IF I STARTED CHANGING?

JAKE

Carlos, you are who you are. You can't change.
It's ok.

CARLOS SINGS

WHAT IF I COULD GET BACK ALL THOSE YEARS?

WHAT IF? WHAT IF?

JAKE SINGS

WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE?

WHAT IF LOVE JUST COST A DIME?

BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT EASY, WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.

CARLOS SINGS

IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL

JAKE SINGS

IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE

IT'S HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE.

CARLOS

Jake, look, it's not all bad and it doesn't have to just end. Sometimes you just have to listen, inside, you feel it right?

JAKE stands up and moves away a few feet to gain some distance and perspective. Thoughtfully he sings.

JAKE SINGS

WHAT IF I JUST STAYED SILENT?

WHAT IF COULD HEAR YOUR HEART?

WHAT IF I STARTED TO LISTEN?

WHAT IF I COULD GO BACK TO START?

WOULD THINGS HAVE CHANGED?

JAKE&CARLOS SING

WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE?

WHAT IF LOVE JUST COST A DIME?

BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT EASY, WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.

IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL

IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE

IT'S HARD TO REMAIN ...

CARLOS SINGS

WHAT IF I SAID, "I LOVE YOU?"

(QUIET MOMENT)

JAKE

Carlos. I don't think

CARLOS

Jake you can't leave. I am putting myself out there.

JAKE

Carlos, I got to let go

CARLOS

Now changing his mood from loving to forceful. THE PLAN depends on this.

No. No it's you and me. That's what it is.

JAKE move towards the door and CARLOS blocks him and pulls his arm.

(MORE)

Jake. No. I am warning you. You can't leave.
We are in this together.

JAKE

You are warning me?

CARLOS

Believe me when I tell you that you will get
over this "thing" and see it my way, our way.
You are staying. You belong to me, is that
clear.

JAKE

Belong? Are you crazy

CARLOS

He slaps Jake hard enough to knock
him to the ground.

You are mine.

JAKE

Stunned. Looking up.
Jesus. That is the 2nd time.

CARLOS

What do you mean the 2nd time?

JAKE

Nothing. Nothing

CARLOS

Stern and matter-of-fact.

I'm sorry. Get up. Get up! Can't you see you
are making me crazy? Now you said "That was
the second time, who else hit you and when? I
won't have it. Nobody hits my Jake.

JAKE

Well you just did.

CARLOS

I'm sorry, I don't what came over me.

JAKE

He shakes it off and gets up,
rubbing his jaw.

I tried to tell you yesterday. At work, with
Mitch, it got out of hand.

CARLOS

What got out of hand? Did he hit you.

JAKE

Forget it. This is insanity. Twice I get
slapped down. Twice I am told that "I belong to
somebody." Jesus.

CARLOS

What is going on with Mitch? Are you seeing
him behind my back. Why does Mitch think that
you belong to him?

CARLOS grabs JAKE.

Are you cheating on me?

JAKE

No I am not. But I should ask you that same
question.

CARLOS

What question? What are you saying.

CARLOS raises his hand again to
slap JAKE, and JAKE does not
flinch.

JAKE

What are you gonna hit me again? Whoo Hoo
let's go another round. You are pathetic.
I am getting away from you, now. You hit me?
I can't believe that you hit me.

Carlos

Jakey, I am sorry, I got scared and I won't do
it again, but please don't leave.

JAKE heads to the door and CARLOS
blocks him.

JAKE

Carlos get out of my way.

JAKE shoulder blocks him and opens the door.

CARLOS

You will be back. I know it. You need me and you just don't know it. You won't make it without me.

JAKE shakes his head and leaves.

Jake! Jake!

CARLOS pauses and smiles.

If Jake is not with me, he will be with nobody. The "PLAN" got to stick to the "PLAN'" That is a fact. He will understand. I will help him, but he will know that his place is right here, beside me. He needs time to cool off. Papi Chulo is back and on top. Jakey has a few lessons to learn.

Walks around and does an "air slap" and relives the slap that knocked JAKE down, he laughs a bit as he acts this out.

Round One goes to Papi Chulo!

Knock on the door. CARLOS goes to the door. ROBIN enters. ROBIN is wanting the details.

ROBIN

I just saw Jake leave. He looked shaken. What happened?

CARLOS pulls ROBIN inside.

CARLOS

Robin, Listen. Just listen. That worked.

CARLOS kisses ROBIN.

ROBIN

Tell me.

CARLOS

CARLOS smiles, his mood changed.
He kisses ROBIN again, quickly.

Oh yes. I slapped him right down to ground.
You should've seen his face. He was scared.
Good thing we practiced that. Fuck, I scared
myself a bit (he smiles).

ROBIN

The Plan, Carlos. The Plan. Are we on track?

CARLOS

The plan is on track. We are almost through.
I got to get Karen back in line.

ROBIN

Karen? Now what?

CARLOS

She thinks that I am hers, that "Karen and
Carlos" will be the Power Couple in town.

ROBIN

Carlos, you are with me. You are gay,
remember?

CARLOS

Robin, I love you. Karen and I had a thing a
long time ago and she tried to come on to me
this evening. Put on a blond wig.

ROBIN

So now you like blondes?

CARLOS

No, Robin. Listen. Hey. Did you hear me? I
love you. Now back to the plan. You give Jake
an hour and call him. Move this along. Wait
till I tell you about Mitch. Holy shit. Mitch
did it on his own (Carlos Laughs). You won't
believe it.

ROBIN

Tell me?

CARLOS

Later. You better go. Jake may come back.

ROBIN

Alright. Where is the gun?

CARLOS

CARLOS Reveals the gun and
holster. He smiles.

Right here. Now go.

ROBIN

Ok Ok. I am going.

ROBIN kisses CARLOS. CARLOS
Growls.

CARLOS

I will call you later. Ciao.

ROBIN exits. CARLOS smiles. He
sings in a menacing tone,
sarcastic, like a spider who just
caught the fly. The "Male Medusa"
seducing.

CARLOS SINGS

WOULD YOU DANCE WITH ME?
COME ON, IT'S JUST A DANCE.

CARLOS exits.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

**SCENE 1 ROBIN & CARLOS - HEADS OR TAILS - 1-DAYS BEFORE (ALT
VERSION OF THIS SCENE P 137)**

CARLOS is in his living room,
knock on the door - The song by
Phillip Phillips "gone, gone, gone"
playing

CARLOS

Yea, coming

Knock again more rapid and with
intensity

Yes hold on coming I said.

He opens the door. It is ROBIN.

Robin? Did any one see you?

He pulls ROBIN in quick.

ROBIN brushes by CARLOS. ROBIN is
tense.

ROBIN

You need to break this off. I've been thinking
this over.

CARLOS

Break it off? What are you talking about? WE
have 1-day to go. Then we wrap this all up.

ROBIN

I am telling you this is out of hand

CARLOS

Robin, baby what are you talking about?

ROBIN

Yesterday, I called Jake like you said. I
waited an hour. Jake is scared.

CARLOS

Good that was the plan. Where is Jake now?

ROBIN

He is at my place. I told him to stay there.
I said I had to go out of town tonight for
work. He bought that. This thing with Jake has
gone on long enough. Time to wrap this up.

CARLOS

Good man. My Robin is so smart.

CARLOS kisses ROBIN. As he is hugging him CARLOS says:

No this is just starting to get, *interesting*.

ROBIN

No Carlos, this is gone on 4 years too long. Can't we just stop this now?

CARLOS

Robin, this was your idea. You said, actually you *DARED* me to see if Jake would fall for me and then use him to cover up our plan.

ROBIN

Carlos, Jake is scared.

CARLOS

Like I said that is the plan. The more scared he gets the easier it will be to frame him. And Mitch. That crazy ass Mitch.

ROBIN

What did Mitch do?

CARLOS

He made a pass at Jake 2-days ago. Mitch slapped Jake down!

ROBIN

What?

CARLOS

Mitch slaps Jake. I slapped jake. Twice now Jakey takes a slap! Good Boy! He thinks everyone is gonna slap him!

CARLOS laughs and slaps Robin on the back. Robin is not amused.

ROBIN

Carlos this has gone on too far. We need to get out, now.

CARLOS

Get out? Hell no. Not until this is finished. I got Karen taking the fall for all the shit we laundered. Booking our money offshore. Jake will take the fall when we kill Mitch.

ROBIN

That's what I mean. We need to stop this now.

CARLOS

This was always the plan. It was your plan.
Genius plan. Do you remember that night

CARLOS moves in closer.

You had this idea how we could pull this off.
Frame Karen, put the blame of Mitch's death on
Jake and we are out of here. Rich. Free. And
alone again, together.

He gets sexy with Robin.

You are a genius. My genius.

CARLOS kisses ROBIN briefly. ROBIN
trying not to lose his focus.

ROBIN

Come on Carlos, you are distracting me.

CARLOS

Uh-huh

He kisses ROBIN on the neck then
works his way up.

ROBIN

Carlos, baby I love you...

CARLOS

Uh-huh

CARLOS continues to seduce ROBIN.
ROBIN continues to try and stay
focused.

ROBIN

People are gonna get hurt. What about Karen?
How is that going to work now with Jake?

CARLOS continues kissing ROBIN'S
neck. ROBIN is now completely
distracted and trying to stay on
point.

Oh Papi Chulo

CARLOS flexes and pulls Robin to
him and puts Robin's hand on his
crotch

CARLOS

Papi knows how to work it! I called Karen
right after you left. I was pretty pumped up
after slapping Jake down. This plan,

CARLOS kisses ROBIN.
This plan is GENIUS. I had Karen come back
last night. I apologized. "Momma" she wants to
be called "Momma"

CARLOS continues to seduce ROBIN
has he speaks.

ROBIN
"Momma?"

CARLOS
She said, "Momma needs some love" so I gave her
some love.

ROBIN
What do you mean?

CARLOS
Well I can swing both ways. I had Karen
wrapped up tight around my (he grabs ROBIN'S
crotch)...hmmm *finger*.

ROBIN
You had sex with her?

CARLOS
CARLOS growls low and moans.
Well, you got to do what you got to do. I had
to have her trust me again. So I went
in...deep

ROBIN
Ok Ok I don't need to hear this

CARLOS
CARLOS continue to seduce ROBIN.
You know "Deep" you like it when I go deep

ROBIN
Ok Ok. I get it but how will Karen do it?

CARLOS
I finished her off, she said, "Oh it has been
too long"

ROBIN breaks away. Trying not to
compose himself.

ROBIN
Ok Ok. The Plan, my friend, let's get back to
the plan.

CARLOS

CARLOS still in a playful tone.
And I said I need you to do me a favor. Just one? Convince Jake to use the gun to protect himself from Mitch.

ROBIN
Jake is going to get hurt.

CARLOS
And?

ROBIN
And what? It is not good. We are hurting people.

CARLOS
Did anyone ever look out for you and me? Both our families kissed us goodbye when we came out. Fuck them. I will say I do miss having you right next to me.

CARLOS walks over to pour two drinks.
My partner, we are gonna pull this off.

ROBIN
I just don't want to see Jake get hurt.

CARLOS
Listen to you. Robin, you are the most cold-hearted, self centered person I know, after me.

CARLOS laughs.

You don't owe Jake anything. We are in this together. We are gonna finish this off in tomorrow just like we have planned. It has been 4 years to see this come to a finish and I am not, we are not going to stop now.

ROBIN
I know it is a great plan

CARLOS
Genius plan. And the fact the Mitch has this obsession with Jake, that is a bonus.

ROBIN
How did this all start with Mitch? I mean he knows you two are together.

CARLOS
I stopped by to see Jake at work about a month ago and Mitch is like a little school girl around Jake. Jake has no idea.

(MORE)

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Karen told me that Mitch liked Jake since that first night he met him when he was the bartender and I set up the whole "Sinatra Song" thing with Mitch in advance. Mitch is smiling and "Oh Jake this and Oh Jake that" it is sad really. Mitch is a handsome man, strong but he is weak for Jake. It is perfect. Jake told me yesterday that Mitch came on to him at the office. Don't you see, when Mitch dies, Jake will go down, Jake will be the Prime Suspect. Mitch will be the "Jealous Office Worker obsessed with Jake" and Jake will kill him because of his advances towards him. We can totally make it look like a love gone unnoticed. Perfect this is just perfect.

ROBIN

This is not how we planned it.

CARLOS

We always planned that Mitch had to die. He knows too much of our operations. We needed Jake working for him to gain access. We got that and we have had 3 great years of importing software at Black Market prices. We used Mitch's business to fund our business. Sure we brought him in on it. He knew it and we knew it. The only one that didn't know was Jake. Mitch will be erased and Jake will go down for the murder and you and I my love, we get the hell out of here and off to some island. Just like we planned. It has been rough with out you here. Although, Jakey has been a good substitute. You know what he calls me?

ROBIN

I can't imagine.

CARLOS

Papi Chulo.

ROBIN

That's *my name for you*, "Papi Chulo"?

CARLOS

CARLOS smiles, winks and moves on.
Briskly.

Jakey will do anything and everything that I want. I have him all wound up. Yesterday he said he wanted to leave me. Which is why we are moving up our schedule. He feels trapped under me, he has delusional affection from Mitch, he world is falling down around him. Jake gets slapped by me. Jake gets slapped by Mitch. Mitch is found dead.

(MORE)

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Did I tell you he got Jake flowers? Oh that was great. I had Karen tell Mitch that Jake and I were having problems and that Jake confided in Karen that he always had a thing for Mitch. Mitch has had a thing for Jake from the start. Karen told Mitch to make a move. That backfired.

ROBIN

What about Karen? Can you trust her?

CARLOS

There are only two people I trust. You and me. As for Karen, the more she gets involved the more she feels like she is involved. She will do anything for me. Anything.

ROBIN

Carlos, what are you planning?

CARLOS

Robin, this was your plan from the start. Get Jake to work with Mitch so we get in on his operation. Partner with Mitch. Get Jake under my wing so we have a fall guy when Mitch goes down. Do you not remember? Use Karen to do all the paperwork and then she is that fall guy/girl and you and I are gone, gone, gone. I just took your ideas and made them come to life.

CARLOS kisses ROBIN.

Perfect.

SONG: WHEN I MET YOU

CARLOS SINGS

WHEN I MET YOU I KNEW RIGHT THEN

THAT THINGS WOULD CHANGE I DIDN'T KNOW WHEN

WHEN I MET YOU IT WAS ALL SO CLEAR

THAT THINGS WOULD BE CHANGING STARTING RIGHT HERE

CARLOS gets up and moves like he is drawing a mental road map - if we could show a road map

WHEN I MET YOU AND LOOKED IN YOUR EYES

YOU GAVE A WINK AND TO MY SURPRISE

WHEN I MET YOU I PLACED MY BET

THAT THINGS WOULD CHANGE AND WE COULD FORGET

A LIFE OF NEVER-ENDING WAITING IN LINE
A LIFE OF REGRETS TIME AFTER TIME
WE COULD JUST LEAVE AND START THINGS NEW
I KNEW IT THEN WHEN I MET YOU.

ROBIN SINGS
WHEN I MET YOU I COULD FEEL THE HEAT
YOU TOOK MY HAND MADE ME FEEL YOUR HEART BEAT
WHEN I MET YOU, THE SEARCH WAS DONE
YOU SAID "LIFE IS WAITING WE BETTER RUN, FROM

CARLOS AND ROBIN SING
A LIFE OF NEVER-ENDING WAITING IN LINE
A LIFE OF REGRETS TIME AFTER TIME
WE COULD JUST LEAVE AND START THINGS NEW
I KNEW IT THEN WHEN I MET YOU.

ROBIN
You are like an onion. I think I know you and
then another layer comes off and I see another
side.

CARLOS
You like what you see?

CARLOS takes his shirt off and
pulls ROBIN in. They kiss.

ROBIN
Yes I love what I see. This plan may bring us
down, but we will go down together

CARLOS pulls off ROBIN'S shirt.

CARLOS
Oh there is more going down, but right now
let's go down on this.

They strip down to underwear.
CARLOS has a jock on. ROBIN is
puzzled

ROBIN

A jock?

CARLOS

CARLOS growls in a low tone.

I am always prepared.

The music play underneath. This
scene lasts just a minute. They
embrace simulate sex for a minute.
The lights dim, then come back up.
They are entwined standing, ROBIN
in front, CARLOS behind him.

CARLOS AND ROBIN SING

They sing very soft and tender and
build.

A LIFE OF NEVER-ENDING WAITING IN LINE

A LIFE OF REGRETS TIME AFTER TIME

WE COULD JUST LEAVE AND START THINGS NEW

I KNEW IT THEN WHEN I MET YOU.

Building now even more.

ROBIN SINGS

TWO NOBODIES FROM TWO NOWHERE LIVES

CARLOS SINGS

TWO PEOPLE RACING BUT NEVER GETTING THE PRIZE

ROBIN AND CARLOS SING

TOO LONG EACH OF US HAS BEEN ALONE
WHEN I MET YOU, WHEN I MET YOU, I FOUND MY HOME

CARLOS

So let's wrap this up. I got plans for us.

ROBIN

I know. I know. I feel bad about Jake.

CARLOS

Jakey will be fine. He will be very popular in jail. Let's do this. Are you in?

ROBIN

I am in.

CARLOS SINGS

WHEN I MET YOU I DIDN'T KNOW

THAT ALL WE HAD TO DO WAS JUST SAY "GO"

ROBIN SINGS

WHEN I MET YOU WE MADE A PLAN

TO WIN AT ANY COST, I UNDERSTAND. SO "GOOD-BYE TO"

ROBIN AND CARLOS SING

A LIFE OF NEVER-ENDING WAITING IN LINE

A LIFE OF REGRETS TIME AFTER TIME

WE COULD JUST LEAVE AND START THINGS NEW

I KNEW IT THEN WHEN I MET YOU.

CARLOS

So are you sure of the plan?

ROBIN

Yes

CARLOS

Tell me again.

ROBIN

I have already called Jake. I will call him tomorrow suggest that I can help. We meet at a bar. I tell him we will come and see you and get his stuff and get out of here.

CARLOS

And?

ROBIN

We get into a fight, the three of us. You push Jake I hit you and we leave, quick.

CARLOS

And?

ROBIN

I take Jake to my place. You go to take care of Mitch. Karen calls the police to say that their business partner, Mitch has been missing can they check his apartment, she heard an argument at work between Jake and Mitch. She said that Jake seemed erratic and that he and Carlos split up. Carlos is a wreck. Jake is at my place. I leave. Police show up. They have a note from Jake to Mitch, "*Mitch i am warning you leave me alone. I have Carlos, stay away. You are pathetic. Leave me alone.*"

CARLOS

The gun will be there. Karen will meet Jake tomorrow to give him the gun for protection. She will get Jake to hold the gun. He will then give it back as we both know he hates guns. Karen gets the gun back to me. I kill Mitch. Leave the gun.

ROBIN

Jake goes down.

CARLOS

Jake goes down. Oh there is a lot more going down then just Jake. Believe me.

ROBIN

Ok let's do this. I cannot see you again until this is through.

CARLOS

Well then, let's make this night count.

(lights dim we here the final Phillip Phillip line "gone gone gone")

END OF SCENE

**SCENE 2 KAREN AND JAKE - AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN -
BACK TO TODAY**

Paul Simon "50 Ways to leave your lover" is playing as the scenes changes. The apartment slides of and we bring back the office. A desk and chair, desk light. As the lights come up Karen is at the office of Mitch. Jake enters. The Paul Simon song fades as Jake walks in.

Karen has a red cocktail dress on
with long gloves, the blonde wig.
Jake enters,

JAKE

Against my better judgement I am here. What do
you want? Jesus, you still have that wig?

KAREN

Blondes do have more fun.

JAKE

So what is it? Why did you want me to come to
the office?

KAREN

Jakey

He looks at her with a cross look.

ok, *Jake*

She says this very sweetly. Their
interaction is brisk. Like
neither one really hears the
other. Karen is seductive and
enticing. Jake speaks crisp and
direct. Jake will fall under her
seduction.

I know that we have not seen eye to eye

JAKE

Well aren't you late to the party with that
newsflash.

KAREN

And i know that I have not always been, nice

JAKE

Never. The word is "NEVER" been nice, Karen.
You have not been nice to me a single day in 4-
years. Why is that, Karen? Or did you change
your name now that you are a blonde?

KAREN

She playfully laughs. Soothing.
She will be seducing Jake in this
scene, memorizing him to think of
killing MITCH, that MITCH is a
threat.

Jake, Jake, Jake. Relax. Momma is here to
help.

JAKE

Momma? Your help? Don't need it. Don't want it

KAREN

Oh but you do. You see, *Momma* knows a lot about a lot of things.

JAKE

What do you know?

KAREN

I know that you and Carlos had a fight two days ago. I know you are staying with Robin.

JAKE

And what do you know of that?

KAREN

And I know he hit you, knocked you down and that is the 2nd time you have been slapped down.

JAKE

Jesus is nothing private?

KAREN

And I know that you are scared of Carlos and you should be. And Mitch and his advances, well that seems to be *interesting*.

JAKE

Carlos? What will he do? And, Mitch that was just a misunderstanding.

KAREN

Carlos hit you didn't he. Believe me. He can be dangerous. Mitch is a "misunderstanding" oh my. And Mitch hit you! Oh it is so, well,

KAREN laughs

I didn't know you were, *kinky* like that. Take a slap here, take a slap there.

JAKE

Enough, Karen. What do you want?

KAREN

Jakey, *Momma* only wants to help. Jakey, you ever hear about Fred?

JAKE

That old joke, "Fred is dead"?

KAREN

Exactly.

JAKE

What do you mean?

KAREN

I mean Fred tried to leave Carlos. Carlos was not having that. Then Fred is gone.

(she snaps her fingers)

Disappeared.

JAKE

That's insane. You are saying that Carlos killed Fred.

KAREN

I am saying that Fred is dead

JAKE

How do you know?

KAREN

Like I said, Momma knows a lot.

JAKE

So Carlos killed Fred.

KAREN

Honey, I did not say that Carlos killed Fred. I did say that Fred is dead. I did say that I know for a fact. Understand?

JAKE

So, wait, you?

KAREN

There isn't anything I would not do for Carlos. We are the same. And

JAKE

And I think you are making this shit up. Just another one of your games. You always try to get in my head.

KAREN

Jakey you need protection.

She takes the gun out of her purse.

JAKE

Astonished.

What a gun? No I do not need it.

KAREN

Jakey take it.

JAKE

Stop it with the "Jakey"

KAREN

I think you are going to want to have some insurance.

JAKE

I am not taking a gun. Put that away.

KAREN

Just hold it. See how it feels.

She moves behind him and helps him to hold the gun in his hands. She is seducing him, trance like as she gets him to hold the gun and get his prints on it.

Look it is not too heavy. Pretend that Carlos is coming at you, angry again.

They fire pretend shots like playing "Cowboys and Indians as a kid

Pow. Pow. Pow. Mitch is making advances on you again.

More pretend shots

Pow. Pow. Pow.

JAKE

Straight guys at the bar make fun me, call you queer, fag, sissy, girl.

More pretend shots

Pow. Pow. Pow.

KAREN

Feel the power and the protection. Pow. Pow. Pow.

She lets go of his hands and he hold the gun steady.

JAKE

Trance like.

Carlos slaps me down. I get up. I say,
"listen you son of bitch" Pow. Pow. Pow. Mitch
forces himself on me and I say, "Back off. I
mean it" Pow. Pow. Pow.

KAREN

Good baby. Listen to momma.

JAKE

JAKE pauses then shakes it off.
He puts down the gun, lays it on
the table.

But then I've killed someone. That's not me.

KAREN moves behind JAKE again. We
do not hear the conversation as
the music start. It involves "POW
POW POW" she is holding JAKE'S
hands as he is holding the gun.
The song is very powerful as KAREN
seduces JAKE and the AUDIENCE.

SONG: AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN

KAREN SINGS

AFTER THE TUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN
AFTER THE SILENCE, AFTER THE PAIN
AFTER THE MOMENT WHEN THE MOMENT GONE
AFTER A WHILE YOU LEARN TO MOVE ON.

KARAEN gets up looks out into a
distance that we don't see. The
song builds.

AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN
AFTER IT'S DONE NO NEED TO EXPLAIN
AFTER THE NIGHTMARES EASE INTO DREAMS
AFTER IT'S DONE IT'S NOT AS BAD AS IT SEEMS

KAREN gets up and goes center. She
is on her own center stage in her
mind. Strong and powerful.

AND THUNDER IS JUST A SOUND
AND ALL THE RAIN CAN DO IS COME DOWN AND DOWN
NO NEED FOR FEAR OR REFRAIN
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER. IT'S JUST THE RAIN.

KAREN sits down and takes Jake's
hand. She is lost in some fantasy

AFTER THE TUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN
AFTER YOU DO WHAT YOU DO, YOU CANNOT EXPLAIN

The music hold on the note. KAREN
gets up and suddenly has a
realization. "MOMMA is now onto
the "PLAN" her mood has changed.

She speaks like she is unraveling
a mystery.

KAREN

That son of bitch.

Now with more intensity.

That lousy son of a bitch!

JAKE

What? Who are you talking about?

KAREN

She ignores JAKE as she is
building in anger as she realizes
she has been used.

Oh do this one thing for me. I cannot believe
it. I fell for that. For him.

JAKE

Karen what are you talking about

KAREN

Shh. Momma needs to think. He used me. I fell
for it and he used me.

JAKE

Karen, what are you talking about? Who used
you? When? What is going on?

KAREN SINGS

AFTER THE TUNDR, AFTER THE RAIN
AFTER YOU DO WHAT YOU DO, YOU CANNOT EXPLAIN
AFTER THE MOMENT YOU REALIZE YOU ARE THE PAWN

KAREN realizes that she has been
used by CARLOS. She repeats that
line.

AFTER THE MOMENT YOU REALIZE YOU ARE THE PAWN
AFTER THAT MOMENT YOU WAKE UP AND MOVE ON

KAREN builds in intensity. Think
Patti LuPone. She stands center
stage. Full spot light on her.

AND THUNDER IS JUST A SOUND
AND ALL THE RAIN CAN DO IS COME DOWN AND DOWN
NO NEED FOR FEAR OR REFRAIN
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER. IT'S JUST THE RAIN.

KAREN

Bland tone she shakes her head.
She ask JAKE for the gun
Jake hand me the gun. You won't need this.
Change of plans.

JAKE hands her the gun. KAREN
sits back down with JAKE and holds
his hand.

KAREN SINGS JAKE ECHOES

AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN
AFTER A WHILE YOU ARE DONE WITH THE PAIN
AFTER YOU LEAVE, YOU NEVER LOOK BACK
AFTER HE'S GONE, YOU GET BACK ON TRACK

KAREN
Jake, you are going to be just fine.

JAKE
How do you know?

KAREN
I just know.

KAREN gets up. Now with
conviction. Big finish.

KAREN SINGS

AND THUNDER IS JUST A SOUND
AND ALL THE RAIN CAN DO IS COME DOWN AND DOWN

NO NEED FOR FEAR OR REFRAIN
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER.

Pause and hold the note

JAKE SINGS
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER

MITCH, ROBIN & CARLOS SING

(off stage)
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER

KAREN SINGS

Center stage full on "GYPSY ROSE'S
TURN" finish.

IT'S JUST THE RAIN.

JAKE, MITCH, ROBIN CARLOS SING
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER. IT'S JUST THE RAIN
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER. IT'S JUST THE RAIN
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER. IT'S JUST THE RAIN

The song ends. KAREN is looking
in the distance

JAKE
You think Carlos will let me leave?

KAREN
Momma knows a lot of things. Leave Carlos to
me. You are staying at Robin's now right?

JAKE
How did you know.

KAREN
Jake keep up. Momma knows. Meet Robin. Be
prepared. We are gonna wrap this up.

KAREN SINGS
AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN.

KAREN gets up and walks out. JAKE
is left alone.

JAKE
He ponders.
A gun. You know what Cher would do? She would
move on. "SNAP OUT OF IT."

He makes a pretend gun with his
hand.
Hey Carlos! *Pow! Pow! Pow!*

JAKE smiles he blows the end of
the gun, puts the pretend bun in
the back of his shirt like the
criminals do. He shakes his head.
He says reflectively.
"momma know a lot of things."

JAKE leaves the stage, lights dim
the stage is cleared by all
actors.

All actors will collide. The song
by Cher "It's in his kiss" plays
as the scene opens. Once the stage
is clear we do the rapid fire
stage crossing and mash-up as the
song "What Would Cher DO" vamps.

SCENE 3 THE INTERLUDE - THE MASH UP - TODAY

MITCH and JAKE walk across, MITCH pleading, JAKE ignoring

KAREN pulls CARLOS across the stage with a collar.

JAKE crosses with ROBIN, they stop, seem to talk. JAKE walks off.

CARLOS comes back on stage, shirt off he meets ROBIN they kiss. ROBIN leaves. CARLOS turn and puts his shirt on.

KAREN meets CARLOS. They kiss. KAREN leaves.

JAKE meets CARLOS. CARLOS puts a collar on JAKE. They kiss. CARLOS leaves.

MITCH meets JAKE. MITCH takes the collar off JAKE. They kiss. MITCH leaves. JAKE is alone on stage.

Cher song ends. The song "What Would Cher Do" vamps.

Lights dim. As each actor enters they have their back to the audience. All wearing a long Cher wig. Carlos hands a wig to Jake who puts it on.

The song builds soft and low. Actors should have tambourine, Indian-style tom toms. The song is driving.

SONG: WHAT WOULD CHER DO

CAST SINGS

IF CHER WAS IN TROUBLE
SHE WOOULD KNOW WHAT TO DO
WHEN LIFE GOT HER DOWN
SHE WOULD ALWAYS CHOOSE
TO LOOK UP. TO LOOK OUT. TO LOOK AT THE STARS.
SHE SAYS, "WE ALL SLEEP ALONE."
SHE SAYS, "WE ALL HAVE OUR SCARS.

Beat the cast turns

SO BELEIVE IN YOURSELF NO NEED FOR ANYONE
AND BELEIVE IN YOUR TRUTH BECASUE WHEN THE DAY IS DONE

FIND THE HEART OF THE GYPSY DEEP INSIDE OF YOU
"SNAP OUT OF IT" THAT'S WHAT CHER WOULD DO.

KAREN SINGS
IF CHER HAD BEEN USED SHE WOULD KNOW WHAT TO DO.

MITCH SINGS
WHEN LOVE GOT HER DOWN SHE WOULD ALWAYS CHOOSE.

JAKE, ROBIN AND CARLOS SING
LET THE MAN GO. LET THE MAN DOWN. LOOK AT THE STARS

CAST SINGS
SHE SAYS, "THE WAY OF LOVE" WILL LEAVE YOU SOME SCARS.

SO BELIEVE IN YOURSELF NO NEED FOR ANYONE
AND BELIEVE IN YOUR TRUTH BECAUSE WHEN THE DAY IS DONE
FIND THE HEART OF THE GYPSY DEEP INSIDE OF YOU
"SNAP OUT OF IT" THAT'S WHAT CHER WOULD DO.

TEMPO break. Dramatic. All
acoustic sounds stop. This is
building to harmony parts. It
should be chilling and exciting.

JAKE SINGS
WHEN YOU MEET A BOY

KAREN SINGS
WHEN YOU MEET A BOY

ROBIN SINGS
WHEN YOU MEET A BOY

MITCH SINGS
WHEN YOU MEET A BOY

CARLOS SINGS
WHEN YOU MEET A BOY

CAST SINGS
WHEN YOU MEET A BOY

MITCH SINGS
AND HE STEALS YOUR HEART LIKE THEIF

CARLOS SINGS
AND HE STEALS YOUR HEART LIKE THEIF

KAREN SINGS
AND HE STEALS YOUR HEART LIKE THEIF

ROBIN SINGS
AND HE STEALS YOUR HEART LIKE THEIF

JAKE SINGS
AND HE STEALS YOUR HEART LIKE THEIF

CAST SINGS
AND HE STEALS YOUR HEART LIKE THEIF

JAKE, KAREN, ROBIN SING
HIS KISSES WILL LIE

CARLOS AND MITCH SING
HIS KISSES WILL LIE

JAKE, KAREN, ROBIN SING
DON'T LOOK IN HIS EYES

CARLOS AND MITCH SING
DON'T LOOK IN HIS EYES

CAST SINGS
HE'S JUST A TRAMP

MITCH AND CARLOS SING
HE'S JUST A THEIF

CARLOS SINGS
HE'S JUST A GYPSY, WHO WILL ALWAYS USE YOU

CAST SINGS
WHAT WOULD CHER DO? WHAT WOULD CHER DO?

TEMPO BREAK, BACK TO RYTHMN
IF CHER WAS IN TROUBLE SHE WOULD KNOW WHAT TO DO.

SO BELEIVE IN YOURSELF NO NEED FOR ANYONE
AND BELEIVE IN YOUR TRUTH BECASUE WHEN THE DAY IS DONE
FIND THE HEART OF THE GYPSY DEEP INSIDE OF YOU
"SNAP OUT OF IT" THAT'S WHAT CHER WOULD DO.

The cast echoes this final line over and over to fade. The cast will set up the final scene on stage as they echo the song lyrics. Once the stage is set repeat the scene Mash-up.

THE CAST SING IN ECHOES
"SNAP OUT OF IT" THAT'S WHAT CHER WOULD DO.

MITCH and JAKE walk across, Mitch pleading, Jake ignoring

KAREN pulls CARLOS across the stage with a collar.

JAKE crosses with ROBIN, they stop, seem to talk. JAKE walks off.

CARLOS comes back on stage, shirt off he meets ROBIN they kiss. ROBIN leaves. CARLOS turn and puts his shirt on.

KAREN meets CARLOS. They kiss. Karen leaves.

JAKE meets CARLOS. CARLOS puts a collar on JAKE. They kiss. CARLOS leaves.

MITCH meets JAKE. MITCH takes the collar off JAKE. They kiss. MITCH leaves. JAKE is center stage.

JAKE SINGS

"SNAP OUT OF IT" THAT'S WHAT CHER WOULD DO.

JAKE leaves. The lights dim.

SCENE ENDS

ACT 2-SCENE 4 - JAKE'S & CARLOS APARTMENT - PRESENT DAY - THE UNRAVELING

The script is now back to present day. We are back to the beginning.

The song "SMOOTH OPERATOR" by SADE plays(Chorus) as JAKE and ROBIN enter. The music then fades.

The stage has been reset by the cast during the CHER song.

The lights go dark on the apartment. CARLOS, takes his place, face down, dead on the floor in front of the couch.

The music dies out as the lights come up on JAKE and ROBIN at the door. The apartment is dark. JAKE and ROBIN are out side of the door.

ROBIN

Are you cool, Jake?

No response. He elbows Jake.

JAKE

Yes, yes I am cool. Just nervous

Jake drops his keys

ROBIN

Jesus, Jake get it together

JAKE

Ok, ok, I am just scared. What if this goes bad? What if Carlos gets angry?

ROBIN

Speaking in a hushed, slightly irritated tone.

Come on Jake, open the door.

JAKE

JAKE speaking in a hushed and nervous tone.

Ok, OK I am ready.

JAKE opens the door. He turns on the light. This lights up only the entrance. We DO NOT see the body on the floor.

Carlos? Carlos? I am home. Carlos?

JAKE looks around. Something is not right.

Robin, something is wrong.

The lights come up and CARLOS is dead on the floor, JAKE nearly trips over him.

Robin. Robin.

ROBIN

Stunned, but quickly assessing the scene. The "PLAN" has just changed.

What the Fuck?

JAKE

What happened?

ROBIN

In a controlled but slightly
panicked tone.
Somebody got here before we did.

JAKE

What do you mean "before we did" what were you
going to do?

ROBIN

Ignoring JAKE, focusing on the
"PLAN" and quickly thinking like a
thief just caught.
Jake. Wake up. The plan. The plan went wrong.
You think Carlos would just let you walk out?

ROBIN is spacing and trying to
think.

JAKE

But you said, "I just know." We got to get out
of here, now

ROBIN

Shit. This is not the plan.

Taking control of himself.
Thinking quickly and in a slightly
angered tone.

This is not the plan.

JAKE

Robin, come on we got to go. We should call
911.

ROBIN

Not till we find out who did this. We are not
safe until we know.

KAREN appears, as if she were
hiding, observing.

KAREN

Cool and sly no emotion.

Well, Boys, what do we have here? OH is that
Carlos?

JAKE

Jesus, where did you come from.

KAREN

Well I was over there and now I am here.

ROBIN

Stern voice.

Karen, what happened.

KAREN

She speaks in a surprised voice,
and very sarcastic, overly
dramatic voice.

You know I am not quite sure.

We hear the door lock being picked
JAKE and ROBIN look. KAREN Feigns
dramatic tension.

OH My! I wonder who that is?

JAKE

What's that?

ROBIN

Shh. Quiet.

KAREN

OH the excitement! Intruders!

ROBIN

Karen.

JAKE and ROBIN look around for
something to pick up. JAKE grabs
a pillow. ROBIN goes for the
lamp. They hold their item up
ready to throw at the intruder.
ROBIN looks at Jake and shakes his
head.

Jake! Seriously? A pillow?

JAKE looks embarrassed. He puts the pillow down and stands behind ROBIN. ROBIN just rolls his eyes.

KAREN

Ok Ok, Momma will be quiet.

The door opens, MITCH has a gun in his hand, pointed ready to fire. He looks nervous, but ready to take action.

JAKE

Mitch?

MITCH

Jake? Are you ok?

ROBIN

Mitch?

MITCH

Robin, what the hell?

KAREN

Mitch, now this is a surprise! We should have a party!

ROBIN

Mitch, why are you here?

KAREN

OH Robin, hmmm you look surprised.

ROBIN

Mitch, put the gun down.

MITCH

Jake, are you ok? Where is Carlos

KAREN

He is taking a little nap.

ROBIN

Karen.

JAKE

Mitch why are you here?

KAREN

Oh, sorry, Mitch. Carlos is here. He is dead.

MITCH

What?

KAREN

Dead. Dead. Dead. How did this happen? Who could have done this? So many suspects?

MITCH moves in. KAREN heads to the door unnoticed as JAKE and ROBIN are surprised that MITCH is here. She moves to the door and locks it and puts the key in her pocket. No one else is aware of this.

MITCH

So, Jake are you ok? Are you hurt? Robin what did you do?

MITCH points the gun at ROBIN, and ROBIN make a move to go for MITCH.

Karen, what did you do?

MITCH points the gun at KAREN.

ROBIN

Mitch let's put the gun down?

JAKE

Mitch, it's OK, come on put the gun down.

MITCH

Jake I thought that you were in trouble. Karen said that you were in trouble and needed my help.

JAKE

Karen, what did you do?

KAREN

In her overly dramatic voice.
Like she is also forgetting,
thinking of the "details."
Honestly, I don't remember. So many details.

JAKE

Mitch, why do you have a gun?

KAREN

Yes, Mitch, why do you have a gun?

MITCH

Karen you said that Jake was in trouble.

KAREN

Odd? That is the 2nd time that you said that. I don't remember that conversation. Robin, you seemed surprised to see Mitch, standing here.

ROBIN

Karen, shut up. (forceful) And what do you know?

KAREN

OH, Momma knows a lot of things.

She pretends to hold up gun, she points to Jake.

POW. POW. Right Jake

JAKE

Karen what do you mean?

KAREN

Jakey, did you forget so soon? Ohhh let's ask Robin, he always has a plan. Robin, sweetie, do you want to share

Karen AIR QUOTES

"THE PLAN" with Jake?

ROBIN

Karen, I am warning you, shut your mouth.

KAREN

She takes the actual gun out of her purse and points at Robin. Now speaking in a very plain, matter of fact tone. She AIR QUOTES again for dramatic effect.

Or what, Robin? Or what? Wait in "THE PLAN" wasn't I supposed to go jail, framed? Oh and Jakey, wasn't he supposed to go to Jail, too?

KAREN sits down. She resumes her pleasant tone.

So many details.

I have to get them all straight in my head. Of course that would be the only "Straight" thing around here besides me!

She looks at the three of them and laughs.

Ohhh, Momma has made a funny!

ROBIN

Not Funny Karen.

MITCH

So wait, Jake was not in trouble?

KAREN

Oh Mitch, you have to keep up. Things move quickly around here. Let's all have a seat and have a chat.

ROBIN

Fuck that. I am leaving.

KAREN

She clicks the gun as to shoot it. Robin, sweetie, Momma has very good aim, at close range, so why don't you and Jakey and Mitch all just sit down. I don't want to ask again.

ROBIN advances towards KAREN and she fires a gun shot to the floor. Robin stops.

ROBIN

Jesus, Karen.

JAKE

Karen you almost hit him.

KAREN

Jakey, Jakey, Jakey, Momma meant to miss. Please would you all keep up. Now Jakey, be a good boy and pour us all a drink. Momma has a little story to tell that I think you will all find so fascinating. The details, well, it is like out of a great mystery novel, but you will tell me what you think?

JAKE comes back with the drinks. Oh thank you. He's such a good boy, don't you think, Robin?

ROBIN

Karen, I am warning you.

KAREN

Yes, yes, so you've said. Whatever. What did Carlos ever see in you?

JAKE

Carlos? And Robin?

KAREN

Jakey, hold on we will get to that. And wait till you all hear about the roses that Mitch got for Jakey. OH that was a delicious little love scene.

JAKE

How do you know about the roses?

MITCH

Karen you filthy Bitch.

KAREN

Mitch now I will not tolerate language. Tsk Tsk Tsk, you boys do need to learn your manners. (BEAT) So, who killed Carlos?

MITCH

Mitch gets up and goes to the door.

I am getting out of here.

He tries the door and it is locked. He struggles with the door.

The door is locked!

KAREN

Hmmm, that is odd.

She pulls out the key and laughs.

Oh here it is!

MITCH

Give me the key. I want out.

KAREN

Mitch, Mitch, Mitch. Come back and sit down and enjoy the party. Now I wonder who did this to Carlos.

JAKE

Well it wasn't me. He was my boyfriend.

Karen

Oh, so being his boyfriend makes you innocent? Really? Then I guess Robin would be innocent, too? And didn't Carlos slap you to the ground? Wait, Jakey didn't Mitch slap you to the ground? My you do like it rough. But as Tina would say, "What's love got to do with it?"

MITCH

Tina? Who is Tina

JAKE & CARLOS

They look at each other and roll their eyes. They say in unison

Tina Turner

KAREN

She rolls her eyes

Mitch you better take notes. The police may want some of these details!

She laughs.

Tina Turner! How could you not know? Oh well. Now back to the boyfriend thing, Jakey.

(MORE)

KAREN (CONT'D)

So if you didn't kill Carlos because he is,
well WAS your boyfriend, does that mean that
Mr. Robin is innocent, too?

JAKE

Robin? What does that mean?

ROBIN

Karen you are starting things you don't want to
finish.

KAREN

Robin, you remember that I have the gun, right?

She points it at him.

MITCH

Wait so Carlos was with Robin?

KAREN

Mitch you are not grasping the basic facts
here. Carlos was with Jake. Robin was with
Carlos.

MITCH

The three of them together?

KAREN

Robin, this is getting tiring could you just
dumb it down for Mitch?

ROBIN

Mitch just shoot her?

KAREN

Mitch shoot me?

She laughs.

Mitch is almost as bad as Jakey holding a gun

She laughs.

Mitch are there even bullets in the gun?

MITCH

He looks, then looks down.

ROBIN

You idiot. Why did you come in with a gun not loaded?

JAKE

Robin. Use your gun.

ROBIN

He growls as he says this.

Remember, Jake you made me promise, "No guns"

JAKE

Well if you knew? Wasn't this your plan?

ROBIN

This is not part of the plan.

KAREN

"THE PLAN!" Oh yes! The question is: *What does ROBIN know?*

KAREN laughs.

Why is Mitch here at all?

She pauses and looks far off like she is pondering the details, counting on her fingers.

He should be dead. Jake should go to jail, Robin and Carlos sail off. Karen goes to jail. Isn't that right Robin?

KAREN does a deadpan look to MITCH.

Mitch you should be dead.

MITCH

What?

JAKE

What?

KAREN

Now let me think who was supposed to kill Mitch. Hmm, those darn details again, so many plot twist to your "Plan"

She air quotes.

Robin. So clever. So involved. So, what was the word that Carlos used? Oh yes, "GENIUS"

KAREN pauses and smiles just like the GRINCH. She speaks in a eerie tone, mocking ROBIN.

GENIUS. GENIUS.

And if I remember Robin, wasn't Jake supposed to get framed for the murder, the prints found on the gun? Jake you remember holding the gun?

She points it at Jake.

POW. POW. Mitch Dead. POW. POW. Carlos dead.

She laughs.

Oh I love a good mystery. Boys, don't you?

JAKE

Where is this going?

KAREN

Jakey, sweetie, it's like an onion. You peel back a layer and then you get another layer. And another layer. It is all so, interesting! What I want to know is who killed Carlos? Has anyone called the police?

MITCH

Police?

KAREN

Mitch we have a dead body here.

JAKE

I don't want to go to jail? I didn't do this.

KAREN

Oh Jakey, your good friend and lover, or wait do you consider Robin a good friend still? I mean, Robin was planning to frame you for the murder of Mitch. With a good friend like that, who needs two? But then Mitch is here and not dead. What do you think?

MITCH

Yea I am not dead.

KAREN

Well done, Mitch, I see you are catching on! Good Boy! So Jakey, back to you. Carlos and Robin have this "plan" that you would...wait I am getting ahead of myself here.

She laughs.

Again those details who can really tell who is with who these days? I mean you meet in a bar, Jakey, they play Sinatra tunes. And all those bad pickup lines. Jakey you do remember those, right? Jakey?

JAKE

What?

KAREN

KAREN speaks slowly to dumb-it-down for JAKE.

The pickup lines, "Do you know what time it is? Oh it's time to dance!"

ROBIN is squirming. Jake is looking at ROBIN and then at KAREN.

KAREN (CONT'D)

Robin, so glad you and Carlos rehearsed that. So, what is that word? Wait, I will think of it again...oh yes, "GENIUS"

KAREN laughs again

Jakey, you think it is just, oh what's the word, "Magic"

ROBIN is clenching his fist, KAREN reminds ROBIN of the gun in her hand.

When all along it is part of Robin's "Plan" you know to get you.

(MORE)

KAREN (CONT'D)

The "PLAN" Jakey was to use you. I just love that little "Would you dance with me"

She sings that line.

"WOULD YOU DANCE WIH ME?"

Robin, that was just genius getting Carlos

She points to CARLOS.

To ask Jakey to dance! I loved that part!

KAREN SPEAKS LOUDLY to CARLOS ON THE FLOOR

Carlos I loved that part! Hmmm, no answer.

MITCH

Karen, Carlos is dead

KAREN

Oh, Mitch you are catching on! Good Boy. See Robin, Mitch is catching on.

KAREN leans over loudly to CARLOS

Carlos, Mitch is catching on!

JAKE

How do you know about all of this?

ROBIN

Karen just shut up.

KAREN

Oh Jakey, you and I, we were the PAWNS in this plan. Isn't that right Robin?

JAKE looks at ROBIN and gets up and they start to fight. KAREN lets it go on for a moment. Then she settles them down.

Boys, Boys, please we don't want to alert the neighbors.

JAKE and ROBIN settle. They act like 5th graders edging each other on.

Good now sit down.

MITCH

What is going on?

KAREN

Mitch which part is confusing you? The part that you were supposed to be dead or the part that you are still alive?

MITCH

All of it!

KAREN

Robin can you help us out here. I mean it is your plan.

ROBIN

I am not saying anything.

KAREN

Manners, they seem to be lacking in you, Robin. Oh yes, Mitch back to you. Well you hired Jake. Remember?

MITCH

Yes yes I got that.

KAREN

Oh wait, but remember when you were the bartender on that fateful night? The night when Carlos and Jake met. That was a set up, right?

JAKE

A set up? This was all a set up?

KAREN

Oh Jakey, not you, too? You must stay with us here as we unravel this. Isn't that right, Robin? Robin, sweetie am I missing anything? The first meeting, Mitch knew, you knew, Carlos knew and I knew. Everyone but little Jakey. Is that right, Robin?

ROBIN

Karen get on with whatever it is you are doing. I will get you for this.

KAREN

Yes, yes. You keep saying that. Anyway back to Mitch who was the bartender and then the boss! Those details!

KAREN winks at ROBIN

GENIUS. Oh Mitch do you remember how you found Jake in the first place?

MITCH

Yes at the bar.

KAREN

OH yes, funny, I wonder if all of this is connected? Robin what do you think. Then Mitch and Jake did have that little Cancun fling before Carlos and Jake got started. That was a juicy little plot twist.

ROBIN

Just shut up Karen.

KAREN

Yes, yes so you've said. So you keep saying. Manners, Robin, I will not stand for ill-manners. Anyway back at the Bar, Sinatra music, Jake got with Carlos and then that way they could work with you, Mitch, which all part of the "plan"

She laughs again.

I know I keep laughing but no one else is. I just find this all so, *interesting*. Oh the "plan" the "plan" Robin you are so clever. And Mitch don't you guys do some illegal stuff? Ouf the police are gonna LOVE THIS. Oh the police did anyone call them. I mean we do have a body on the floor. Hmmm,

ROBIN, JAKE and MITCH all look at each other. They have not called the police.

Well ok if you are going to do something right do it yourself. I called the police.

ROBIN

You called the police?

MITCH

I can't have the police?

JAKE

I want to know what is going on?

KAREN

Jakey, you were going to get framed for the murder of Mitch, but Momma too care of all of that.

KAREN SINGS

She immediately jumps up for this moment.

THUNDER IS JUST A SOUND AND ALL THE RAIN CAN DO IS COME DOWN AND DOWN

Karen regroupes

So the police. They will be here in a little while. I sent them to Robin's place first? There was a tape recording there, labeled "Insurance" hmmm I wonder what that was all about?

ROBIN

Karen, I am gonna kill you.

He rushes to Karen and she shoots and again "Misses" Robin.

Jesus, Karen. You are crazy.

KAREN

Very dramatic.
I feel threatened. I feel threatened.

Now forceful

Now will you sit down. I want to tell our story. What shall we call it? Oh I know, "The Onion" so many layers. Oh that tape, let's see

She takes out her phone, she scans the phone

Oh yes here it is, let's give quick listen. You boys will love this story.

She plays the recording. ROBIN
squirms. JAKE and MITCH glare at
ROBIN.

CARLOS RECORDED VOICE

*The gun will be there. Karen will meet Jake
tomorrow to give him the gun for protection.
She will get Jake to hold the gun. He will
then give it back as we both know he hates
guns. Karen gets the gun back to me. I kill
Mitch. Leave the gun.*

ROBIN RECORDED VOICE

Jake goes down.

CARLOS RECORDED VOICE

*Jake goes down. Oh there is a lot more going
down then just Jake. Believe me.*

ROBIN RECORDED VOICE

*Ok let's do this. I cannot see you again until
this is through.*

CARLOS RECORDED VOICE

Well then, let's make this night count

KAREN stops the phone. Back to
her palyful tone.

KAREN

Robin what do you think? I love your recorded
voice, it has so much character!

ROBIN

Robin growls.

MITCH

I don't like the sound of this story.

KAREN

Mitch, you were supposed to be dead! And you,
with no bullets in the gun! Ha.

ROBIN

With a stern voice.
Ok Karen get on with it.

KAREN

Oh I thought you would never ask. Ok well we can't start from the very beginning, so let me just give you all a brief recap. I am gonna run through this rather swiftly so we can get to tonight's unraveling, so boys keep up. The police will be here shortly, so let's not waste any time.

All show level of disapproval.
ROBIN is looking at MITCH like they are plotting a plan. KAREN sees this.

Oh and please, no subplots at this point. There is enough drama happening right now so don't you two

She points the gun at ROBIN and MITCH.

Try anything. Jakey?

JAKE

Short tone. He is irritated.

What?

KAREN

Now there is no need for that tone of voice. Simply no need. So Jakey, have you been counting?

JAKE

Counting? Counting what?

KAREN

My God. Is anyone with me? Robin can you please help?

ROBIN

Still in a growl.
Bullets. Have you been counting bullets.

KAREN

Oh, Robin, you are the brains in this operation. Good Boy. Now when you were with Carlos were you the top or the bottom? And then when Carlos was with Jake was he the top or the, wait you were still with Carlos when he was with Jake, so was Carlos confused, because Carlos used to be with me. Hmmm I am getting confused. Jakey you got that right?

JAKE

What now, the bullets?

Sarcastically.

Yeah, bullets. You fired 2 bullets.

MITCH

Yes, I counted 2-bullets.

KAREN

Oh Jakey and Mitch, you do have to keep up with momma, we move fast around here. Well yes Captain Obvious, well and you too Mitch, I know I fired at least 2 bullets that you have seen. Details. As they say "The devil is in the details." Mitch, honey you are so quiet. Are you ok? Do you feel left out?

MITCH

Leve me out of this. I am not part of this, this lovefest.

KAREN

Poor Mitch, hmm how DID you say it, oh yes you are "just another rose on the vine" or was it "a leaf in the tree"

MITCH

arrghhhhh
Gets up in anger and growls.

KAREN

Or

She points the gun at Mitch.
Just another bullet in my gun? Isn't that
right Jakey, you are keeping track of my
bullets, Right?

JAKE nods.
Robin I knew you are the bright one in the
group, how many bullets fired?

ROBIN

3
He snarls.

JAKE

No Robin, 2

MITCH
Yes 2-bullets, both fired at you, Robin!

ROBIN

You idiots. 3. 3 fucking bullets. 2 at me
and one at Carlos.

MITCH

But Carlos is dead.

KAREN
Very good, Mitch you are keeping up! Momma is
so proud of you.

JAKE
So 3 bullets?

ROBIN

He sighs and shakes his head.
ROBIN glares at JAKE and points up
3-fingers. Robin is irritated.

Karen just get on with whatever you are doing.

KAREN

Sure thing, Robin. You are in charge. This is
your plan. But wait, Jakey and Mitch, I
wonder? Do you think that I am a part of
Robin's "Plan"?

JAKE

Wait so this whole thing is a set up?

MITCH

Robin, I am gonna kill you

KAREN

"Oh I feel threatened. I feel threatened!"

She laughs.

Mitch I would not say "kill" that could be used
against you in court. You know that "motive"
thing they always talk about. Well, shall we
continue with our story?

ROBIN

Just get on with it.

Karen

Tsk Tsk Tsk so touchy. I guess you were the
top, always in control

She laughs.

Ok our story, now this is a brief recap to get
you all up to speed. There are lovers, lies
and other alibis. Truths and events here. No
shooting the messenger!

She pauses and then laughs.

Ohhh Momma has made another funny "Don't shoot
the messenger!"

MITCH

Not funny

JAKE

You are sick.

KAREN

Well at least you are listening. OK here we go.

She does this in fast, matter of fact tone, like the voice you hear at the end of an add for "side effects" of a drug.

OK. SO, 10-years ago I was with Carlos, and Carlos was straight then, well as far as I could tell, then he met Robin and whoopsie he fell for Robin. I was out Robin was in. 4-years ago Robin had the "Plan" money was tight and those two were never much to finish things, except when it came to sex with each other, they would finish that often, like jack rabbits, oh the role playing, the collars, the outfits, who could keep up, I tried and they always brought me along but they just wanted to make money fast, and quick. Then 4-years ago the plan was to get close to Mitch, but they needed a way to get to him. Mitch and Carlos and then Mitch and Robin each had a little fling with Mitch.

JAKE

Carlos and Robin each went with Mitch?

KAREN

She rolls her eyes. Dismisses Jake.

You see they were trying to figure out Mitch's "type" and found that it resembled something like, well you Jakey. Mitch you do remember those little flings right? With Robin and Carlos? Mitch dear are you with me?

MITCH

He groans.

Yes

JAKE

So Mitch you went with Carlos and Robin?

KAREN

Like jack rabbits. Good Boy, Jakey, for keeping up with the story. So the "Plan" in a nutshell was to get Jakey and Carlos together. Jakey likes Sinatra, Loves a kiss, likes someone to take charge.

JAKE

How do you know?

KAREN

Rolls her eyes.

Jakey, Jakey, social media, GRINDR, I mean son, you have to watch how much you put out there. And seriously you like "The Carpenters"

ROBIN

ROBIN laughs a bit.

Yea, I did find that a little odd

JAKE

Jake starts to get up to go after Robin again.

KAREN

Jakey sit down, it's just music. You like Cher. I like Cher. "Snap out of it." I like Barry Manilow so shoot me

She .

Oh Momma made another funny "Shoot me"

MITCH

I am getting nervous, I feel trapped.

KAREN

Mitch have a drink. You were supposed to be dead. Oh wait I am getting to that now.

So Jakey wanted someone in charge. Blah Blah Blah Jakey and Carlos roll around in the sheets together but Carlos takes these business trips once a month, Jakey you remember that. Vegas, Chicago, that week in Paris every year. His trips to Spain. You could not join because it was all "Business"

ROBIN

Growling.

Karen

KAREN

Oh right, Robin, you were there on all of those trips. What was your favorite spot? I would love to spend the time learning about that with you, but we just have to keep moving. You see the police will be here soon. So, Jakey, you could not join because it was all business, except the only business that was going on was Robin plowing Carlos and using Mitch to import more black market items, that Jakey put through as inventory and credited sales and invoices and all the while, Jakey you were doing Carlos, Carlos was doing Robin, Mitch wanted to do you, you apparently you were "unaware" of Mitch's advances and then you got the flowers, Mitch was another "rose on the vine" my God so much drama. Mitch slapped you down. Next day, Carlos slaps you down. Jakey why do people feel the need to slap you down? Well I would LOVE to find out,

She takes a long deep breath.
but, we have to keep moving! And that brings us just about to the present.

(MORE)

Then just 3 days ago Carlos and I had a little round, then 2 days ago Robin and Carlos had one more night to "plan the plan" and we did hear that little snippet, and don't you just LOVE that word "Snippet" it is the perfect sound for the word, and did Robin and Carlos just go at in the apartment, on the floor, on the couch, on the bed, back to the counter, even I got a bit steamy looking at all of that. Jakey you are at Robin's place staying safe because Robin had to "go out of town." Bravo Robin for being so, what is the word, oh you have STAMINA. I counted at least 5 "explosions" from you that night. POW. POW. POW. POW. POW! Good Boy. Carlos took it like champ!

She breaths in deep.

So,

ROBIN

Are you finished?

MITCH

Yes, can we just get out of here?

JAKE

I am with them, can we go?

KAREN

Boys, have we forgotten the elephant in the room? Hmm? Anyone?

ROBIN

Growls

Carlos

KAREN

Yes! Each of us has been with Carlos.
Intimate with Carlos.

KAREN leans towards CARLOS on the floor and says in a slow, loud voice.

CARLOS WE HAVE ALL BEEN WITH YOU.

Motive? Seems that everyone of us has a motive. Robin, you are the brains here. What do you think?

KAREN breaths in and out, big sigh.

So we are now caught up. So let me tell you the final peel of the onion. When I realized while trying to convince Jakey to take the gun to kill the sexual advances of Mitch, or use as protection form Carlos, I realized that I was the PAWN.

KAREN'S mood suddenly snaps. She gets angry and stands up. I

I WAS THE PAWN. I was going to go down. Jake was going to go down. Mitch was going to be dead and what? Robin and Carlos were just going to sail off together?

KAREN looks right at ROBIN. He looks and then looks down. KAREN has a deep sigh. She sits back down, collects herself.

My mother told me that "a lady never swears."
Well I am sorry but,

Very calmly and lady like

"Fuck no." I am sorry. Language. I was not going to let any of that go down. There is a lot more going down than just the sun tonight. So let's tell the final scene right before you all showed up. Boys are you with me? So many details!

A mist comes across the stage as Karen tells this story and Carlos is now alive and part of the retelling. Lights change to focus just on KAREN and CARLOS, everyone else is blacked out.

CARLOS

Angered tone.
Karen, I have no idea what you are talking about. You just make this stuff up.

KAREN

Carlos I heard you and Robin, "The Plan"

CARLOS

You only thought you heard, you make things over dramatic just to suit your needs.

KAREN

You asked me to get the gun

She takes it out of her purse.
This gun, to Jakey, and get his prints on it, so you could frame him for the murder of Mitch when that happens in just an hour.

CARLOS

You are fabricating this all in your mind I never said that. I never told you that. No one would ever believe that.

KAREN

Really?

She take out her phone and plays the recording of CARLOS.

CARLOS (RECORDED)

Karen all you have to do is get Jake to hold the gun. Wear a pair of gloves, those long red ones, dress up, seduce him into the plan. Then when Mitch is dead the cops will go straight to Jake. I will leave these letters, these are romance letters I made up from Mitch to Jake at the scene. Now be a good girl and do this for me.

CARLOS is outraged.
How did you get that?

He slaps her and she falls to the floor.
I am going to kill you for this.

He rushes towards Karen, she takes the gun and shoots Carlos. He falls to the floor.

KAREN gets up, dusts herself off
CARLOS is dead on the floor.
Lighting changes back to the full scene.

KAREN

She goes back to the chair. The lighting changes and we are back in the room with Carlos on the floor. Mitch, Robin and Jake seated and a dazed look on their faces.

JAKE

Astonished.
I never knew. Robin how could you? Set me up,
I go to jail? You guys kill Mitch?

ROBIN

He looks away.

JAKE

Well say something!

ROBIN

I thought it was a good plan. I didn't count on Karen.

JAKE

Didn't count on Karen? Are you crazy. You were gonna let me go to jail. All this time, you were supposed to help me and

MITCH

You were in on this all the time. Just one lie after another?

ROBIN

I made you rich, Mitch, or did you forget that. If I am going down you will go down with me.

KAREN

And poor Carlos. Robin I guess this was not part of the plan?

ROBIN

Shut up Karen. Just shut up

JAKE

Carlos. I can't believe this all happened. Should we say something?

MITCH

Say something? To Who? About what?

JAKE

I mean say something now. Here Carlos is gone.

KAREN

Jake what do you want to say.

THE SONG: "THE ONION"

JAKE SINGS

He pauses. Looks around.

YOU BROKE MY HEART I'LL LET IT GO. I DIED INSIDE YOU'LL NEVER KNOW.

I JUST GO ON 'CAUSE THAT IS WHAT YOU DO. THEY SAY,
"FORGIVING IS THE RIGHTEST THING THAT YOU CAN DO."

ROBIN SINGS

He looks at everyone, sighs, looks down then looks off in the distance.

HOW DOES TIME GO BY SO FAST? WHY DON'T THE GOOD TIMES EVER SEEM TO LAST?

WHEN DID YOU KNOW THAT WE WERE THROUGH? AM I TOO OLD TO START SOMETHING NEW?

JAKE & ROBIN SING

YOU CUT AN ONION SOMETIMES YOU CRY.

YOU A SEE A BIRD WISH YOU COULD FLY.

WHEN LIFE IS TOUGH YOU STAND YOUR GROUND.

SOMETIMES THE LOVE YOU GIVE COMES BACK AROUND.

MITCH SINGS

WHAT ABOUT THE PROMISES WE KEEP? WHEN JILL LEFT JACK DID, HE WEEP?

WHY HAVE ROSES LOST THEIR SCENT? WHEN I HURT YOU THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT TO DO.

KAREN SINGS

REMEMBER "SEASONS IN THE SUN?" AND DO YOU THINK THAT BLONDES HAVE ALL THE FUN?

PLEASE TELL ME WHY ARE EGGS ALL SHAPED THE SAME? I NEVER LIKED WHEN SNOW TURNED INTO RAIN.

KAREN, MITCH, ROBIN &
JAKE SING

YOU CUT AN ONION SOMETIMES YOU CRY.
YOU A SEE A BIRD WISH YOU COULD FLY.
WHEN LIFE IS TOUGH YOU STAND YOUR GROUND.
SOMETIMES THE LOVE YOU GIVE COMES BACK AROUND.

JAKE SINGS

REMEMBER OUR SUNDAY AFTERNOONS?

ROBIN SINGS

HOW DO ROBINS LEARN TO SING THEIR TUNES?

MITCH SINGS (TO JAKE)

REMEMBER WHEN I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR NAME?

KAREN & ROBIN SING

REMEMBER WHEN I DID NOT TAKE THE BLAME?

JAKE SINGS

IS IT TRUE THE SKY IS BLUE?

ROBIN SINGS

He bends down and takes Carlos'
hand.

I KNOW IT'S TRUE THAT I LOVE YOU.

MITCH, KAREN, JAKE &
ROBIN SING

COULD SOMEONE PLEASE TELL ME WHY WHEN I CUT AN ONION
SOMETIMES I CRY.

YOU CUT AN ONION SOMETIMES YOU CRY.
YOU A SEE A BIRD WISH YOU COULD FLY.
WHEN LIFE IS TOUGH YOU STAND YOUR GROUND.
SOMETIMES THE LOVE YOU GIVE COMES

The lights go out all stop singing
and the final words hang in the
air.

BACK AROUND.

TENSION. Hold the silence for a
count of 5.

JAKE

What happened?

ROBIN

In a commanding voice.

Stay where you are, everyone.

MITCH

Who is this?

ROBIN

Mitch, that is me. Now don't move.

KAREN

She screams. In a dramatic voice.

I feel threatened! I feel threatened!

ROBIN

Karen what are you doing.

Gun shot. Robin drops dead to the
floor.

MITCH

Robin! What was that?

Gun Shot. Mitch drops dead to the floor.

JAKE

Robin! Mitch! Karen what is happening?

Gun shot. Jake drops dead to the floor.

TENSION. HOLD for 5 seconds.
Karen clicks on a lighter. A soft spot comes up and we see KAREN.
She says calmly.

KAREN

"Alexa stop recording."

KAREN SINGS

She sings lightly and sweetly.
YOU CUT AN ONION SOMETIMES YOU CRY

KAREN

Momma knows a lot of things.

The lights come back up. We see the bodies of MITCH, ROBIN and JAKE on the floor, She says in a LOAD slow voice.

Jakey, you keeping count? 6 bullets. I fired 6 bullets. Robin? Mitch? Anything?

We hear knocking on the door.

VOICES

Open up! Police.

KAREN

In a dramatic voice.

Oh please help. I am so very frightened. They
all came at me. Oh please help!

VOICES

Open up! Police.

Blackout

All actors leave the stage. The
song vamps for "MORE GOING DOWN"

CAST SINGS OFF STAGE

NOW I AM OK.

MITCH SINGS

He enters and takes a dramatic
pose Stage Left.

TODAY I HEARD THE NEWS

JAKE SINGS

He enters and takes a dramatic
pose Stage Right.

YOU MOVED IN WITH "WHAT'S HIS NAME"

ROBIN & KAREN SING

They enter and go center stage
with a dramatic pose.

YOU DO WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE.

CARLOS SINGS

He goes center stage, dramatic
pose.

I TOLD YOU I'LL SEE YOU AROUND

CAST SINGS

BUT THERE IS MORE GOING DOWN!

THE SUN WILL RISE. THE SUN WILL SET.

Beat and again acapella

THE SUN WILL RISE. THE SUN WILL SET.

I WONDER NOW WAS I THE ONLY ONE

THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT THAN JUST THE SUN.

THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT, THAN JUST THE SUN.

HOLD

THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN

End a la Les Miz style big
crescendo.

BLACKOUT

ALT -SCENE 1 ROBIN & CARLOS - HEADS OR TAILS - 2-DAYS BEFORE

CARLOS is in his living room,
knock on the door - The song by
Phillip Philips "gone, gone, gone"
playing

CARLOS

Yea, coming

Knock again more rapid and with
intensity

Yes hold on coming I said.

(He opens the door. It is ROBIN)

Robin? Did any one see you?

(He pulls ROBIN in quick)

(ROBIN brushes by CARLOS. ROBIN
is tense)

ROBIN

I called Jake like you said. I waited an hour.
Jake is scared.

CARLOS

Good that was the plan.

ROBIN

This thing with Jake has gone on long enough.
Time to wrap this up.

CARLOS

No this is just starting to get, *interesting*.

ROBIN

Carlos, Jake is scared.

CARLOS

Like I said that is the plan. The more scared
he gets the easier it will be to frame him.
And Mitch. That crazy ass Mitch.

ROBIN

What did Mitch do?

CARLOS

He made a pass at Jake 2-days ago. Mitch
slapped Jake down!

ROBIN

What?

CARLOS

Twice now Jakey takes a slap. Good Boy. He thinks everyone is gonna slap him!

(Carlos laughs and slaps Robin on the back. Robin is not amused)

ROBIN

He doesn't know what he is getting into.

CARLOS

That's right and Jake is mine. I got him right under me.

ROBIN

Carlos this has gone on too far. We need to get out, now.

CARLOS

Get out? Hell no. Not until this is finished. I got Karen taking the fall for all the shit we laundered. Booking our money offshore. Jake will take the fall when we kill Mitch. This was always the plan. It was your plan. Genius plan. Do you remember that night

(Carlos moves in closer)

You had this idea how we could pull this off. Frame Karen, put the blame of Mitch's death on Jake and we are out of here. Rich. Free. And alone again, together. (he gets sexy with Robin) you are a genius. (he kisses Robin). My genius.

CARLOS kisses Robin briefly. ROBIN trying not to lose his focus.

ROBIN

Come on Carlos, you are distracting me.

CARLOS

Uh-huh

He kisses Carlos on the neck then works his way up.

ROBIN

Carlos, baby I love but...

CARLOS

Uh-huh

CARLOS continues to seduce ROBIN.
ROBIN continues to try and stay
focused.

Oh Papi Chulo

(CARLOS flexes and pulls Robin to
him and puts Robin's hand on his
crotch)

Papi knows how to work it! I called Karen
right after you left. I was pretty pumped up
after slapping Jake down. This plan

(Carlos kisses Robin)

This plan is GENIUS. You should have seen
Jake, he was scared. Then, I had Karen come
back I apologized. "Momma" she wants to be
called "Momma"

ROBIN

"Momma?"

CARLOS

She said, "Momma needs some love" so I gave
some love.

ROBIN

What do you mean?

CARLOS

Well I can swing both ways. I had Karen
wrapped up tight around my (he grabs ROBIN'S
crotch)...hmmm *finger*.

ROBIN

You had sex with her?

CARLOS

Well, you got to do what you got to do. I had
to have her trust me again. So I went
in...deep

ROBIN

Ok Ok I don't need to hear this

CARLOS

(he moves close to Robin pulls him
in and talks sexy)

You know "Deep" you like it when I go deep

ROBIN

Ok Ok. I get it but how will Karen do it?

CARLOS

I finished her off, she said, "Oh it has been
too long"

ROBIN

Ok Ok. The Plan, my friend, let's get back to the plan.

CARLOS

And I said I need you to do me a favor. Just one? Convince Jake to use the gun to protect himself from Mitch.

ROBIN

Jake is going to get hurt.

CARLOS

And?

ROBIN

And what? It is not good. We are hurting people.

CARLOS

Did anyone ever look out for you and me? Both our families kissed us goodbye when we came out. Fuck them. I will say I do miss having you right next to me (he walks over to pour two drinks) and my partner, WE are gonna pull this off.

ROBIN

I just don't want to see Jake get hurt.

CARLOS

Listen to you. Robin you are the most cold-hearted, self centered person I know, after me (he laughs). You don't owe Jake anything. We are in this together. WE are gonna finish this off in two days just like we have planned. It has been 4 years to see this come to a finish and I am not, we are not going to stop now.

ROBIN

I know it is a great plan

CARLOS

Genius plan. And the fact the Mitch has this obsession with Jake, that is a bonus.

ROBIN

How did this all start with Mitch? I mean he knows you two are together.

CARLOS

I stopped by to see Jake at work about a month ago and Mitch is like a little school girl around Jake. Jake has no idea.

(MORE)

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Mitch said he liked Jake since that first night he met him when he was the bartender and I set up the whole "Sinatra Song" thing with Mitch in advance. Mitch is smiling and "Oh Jake this and Oh Jake that" it is sad really. Mitch is a handsome man, strong but he is weak for Jake. It is perfect. Jake told me two days ago that Mitch came on to him at the office. Don't you see, when Mitch dies, Jake will go down, Jake will be the Prime Suspect. Mitch will be the "Jealous Office Worker obsessed with Jake" and Jake will kill him because of his advances towards him. We can totally make it look like a love gone unnoticed. Perfect this is just perfect.

ROBIN

This is not how we planned it.

CARLOS

We always planned that Mitch had to die. He knows too much of our operations. We needed Jake working for him to gain access. WE got that and we have had 3 great years of importing software and people at Black Market prices. We used Mitch's business to fund our business. Sure we brought him in on it. He knew it and we knew it. The only one that didn't know was Jake. Mitch will be erased and Jake will go down for the murder and You and I my love, we get the hell out of here and off to some island. Just like we planned. It has been rough with out you here. Although, Jakey has been a good substitute. You know what he calls me?

ROBIN

I can't imagine.

CARLOS

Papi Chulo.

ROBIN

"Papi Chulo"?

CARLOS

Jakey will do anything and everything that I want. I have him all wound up. Yesterday he said he wanted to leave me. Which is why we are moving up our schedule. This is painting a perfect psychotics' profile. He feels trapped under me, he has delusional affection from Mitch, he world is falling down around him. Jake gets slapped by me. Jake gets slapped by Mitch. Mitch is found dead. Did I tell you he got Jake flowers? Oh that was great.

(MORE)

CARLOS (CONT'D)

I had Karen tell him that Jake and I were having problems and that Jake confided in Karen that he always had a thing for Mitch. Mitch has had a thing for Jake from the start. Karen told Mitch to make a move. That backfired.

ROBIN

What about Karen? Can you trust her?

CARLOS

There are only two people I trust. You and me. As for Karen, the more she gets involved the more she feels like she is involved. She will do anything for me. Anything.

ROBIN

Carlos, what are you planning?

CARLOS

Robin, this was your plan from the start. Get Jake to work with Mitch so we get in on his operation. Partner with Mitch. Get Jake under my wing so we have a fall guy when Mitch goes down. Do you not remember? Use Karen to do all the paperwork and then she is that fall guy/girl and you and I are gone, gone, gone. I just took your ideas and made them come to life. (Carlos kisses Robin) Perfect.

ROBIN

I miss our trips and our time together.

CARLOS

Soon enough we will be back there

ROBIN

I had this memory today that kept coming back to me

(Spanish guitar playing in the distance as ROBIN lingers in past memories)

God, that week in Spain.

CARLOS

I loved that week in Spain. And the week in Paris. And the back of your car

ROBIN

Carlos, (he laughs thoughtfully) you are

CARLOS

Carlos moves in to kiss Robin and smiles as he speaks

I know.

MUSIC QUEUES FOR **WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?**

SONG: What About Spain?

ROBIN SINGS

WHAT ABOUT SPAIN? WHAT ABOUT OUR DAYS IN THE SUN?
DON'T YOU MISS THAT MAGICAL, MYSTICAL, LIBRA MOON?
WE DRANK TEQUILLA. WE DRANK SANGRIA. WE FOUND A RYTHYM IN
THE AIR. LET'S GO BACK AGAIN. WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?

CARLOS moves in to soothe and love
ROBIN

CARLOS SINGS

WHAT ABOUT SPAIN? WHAT ABOUT THE TIME WE GOT LOST IN THAT
TOWN WHERE NOBODY NEW OUR NAME.

ROBIN

God, it was like there was no else that
mattered but us.

ROBIN SINGS

WE DRANK TEQUILLA

CARLOS SINGS

WE DRANK SANGRIA

ROBIN AND CARLOS SING

WE FOUND A RYTHYM IN THE AIR. LET'S GO BACK AGAIN.WHAT ABOUT
SPAIN?

ROBIN SINGS

AND NOW BACK IN THE CITY I THINK I HAVE FORGOTTEN

CARLOS SINGS

THE SOUND OF THAT GUITAR

ROBIN AND CARLOS SING

ON THE NIGHT WHEN WE MET

CARLOS

Robin, sometimes I worry that this is all going
to fade. That in the end, nothing will happen.
You will be there with me, right?

ROBIN

Be there? IN the end? Oh yes i will be right
by your side.

CARLOS SINGS

WHAT ABOUT SPAIN? WHAT CAN WE DO TO HOLD ON. OUR MEMORIES
SEEM TO FADE

ROBIN SINGS.

DON'T YOU MISS THAT MAGICAL, MYSTICAL, LIBRA MOON.

ROBIN AND CARLOS SING
WE DRANK TEQUILLA. WE DRANK SANGRIA. WE FOUND A RYTHYM IN
THE AIR. WHAT ABOUT SPAIN? WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?

ROBIN
You are like an onion. I think I know you and
then another layer comes off and I see another
side.

CARLOS
You like what you see? (CARLOS takes his shirt
off and pulls Robin in. They kiss)

ROBIN
Yes I love what I see. This plan may bring us
down, but we will go down together (Carlos
pulls off Robin's shirt.

CARLOS
Oh there is more going down, but right now
let's go down on this.

(They strip down to underwear.
Carlos has a jock on. Robin is
puzzled)

ROBIN
A jock?

CARLOS
(in a low tone) I am always prepared.

(The music play underneath. This
scene last just a minute. They
embrace simulate sex for a minute.
The lights dim, then come back up.
They are entwined standing, Robin
in front, Carlos behind him)

CARLOS (CONT'D)
So let's wrap this up. I got plans for us.
Are you in?

ROBIN
I am in.

CARLOS
So are you sure of the plan?

ROBIN

Yes

CARLOS

Tell me again.

ROBIN

I have already called Jake. I will call him tomorrow suggest that I can help. We meet at a bar. I tell him we will come and see you and get his stuff and get out of here.

CARLOS

And?

ROBIN

We get into a fight, the three of us. You push Jake I hit you and we leave, quick.

CARLOS

And?

ROBIN

I take Jake to my place. You go to take care of Mitch. Karen calls the police to say that their business partner, Mitch has been missing can they check his apartment, she heard an argument at work between Jake and Mitch. She said that Jake seemed erratic and that he and Carlos split up. Carlos is a wreck. Jake is at my place. I leave. Police show up. They have a note from Jake to Mitch, *"Mitch i am warning you leave me alone. I have Carlos, stay away. You are pathetic. Leave me alone."*

CARLOS

The gun will be there. Karen will meet Jake tomorrow to give him the gun for protection. She will get Jake to hold the gun. He will then give it back as we both know he hates guns. Karen gets the gun back to me. I kill Mitch. Leave the gun.

ROBIN

Jake goes down.

CARLOS

Jake goes down. There is more going down than just the sun, tonight. Believe me.

ROBIN

Ok let's do this. I cannot see you again until this is through.

CARLOS

Well then, let's make this night count.

(lights dim we here the final
Phillip Phillip line "gone gone
gone"

END OF SCENE

LYRICS

LOVERS, LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS

(LOVERS AND LIES AND ALIBIS. LOVERS AND LIES AND ALIBIS)

WHY DO YOU SMELL OF CUBAN CIGARS?

WHERE DID YOU GO IN YOUR MIND LAST NIGHT?

WHERE ARE YOU NOW 'CAUSE SOMETHING IS NOT RIGHT?

I SENSE A CHANGE IN THE AIR. WHY ARE YOU SO FAR AWAY?

LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS

A CHANCE ROMANCE UNDER THE STARS IN THE SKY

LOVERS WILL LEAVE YOU AND LIES ARE A GAURUNTEE

I'LL BE YOUR ALIBIS IF YOU WILL BE ONE FOR ME

WHAT IS THAT SCENT SUDDENLY IN THE AIR?

WHY DID YOU LOOK, SUDDENLY OVER THERE?

WHAT ARE THE REASONS THAT YOU MAKE LOVE TO ME?

THESE ARE THE SEASONS OF LOVE YOU SEE.

LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS

A CHANCE ROMANCE UNDER THE STARS IN THE SKY

LOVERS WILL LEAVE YOU AND LIES ARE A GAURUNTEE

I'LL BE YOUR ALIBIS IF YOU WILL BE ONE FOR ME

YOU SAID, "ANOTHER NIGHT WORKING LATE." SO SAD.

YOU SAID, "I HAVE A LOVER, WELL THAT'S TOO BAD."

YOU SAID, "I'LL BE AS TRUE JUST LIKE THE SKY IS BLUE."

YOU SAID, "OF COURSE EVERY NIGHT I DREAM OF YOU."

LOVE ME LIKE A LOVER

LIE TO ME LIKE A THIEF

ASK ME NO QUESTIONS, I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES

(ASK ME NO QUESTIONS, I'LL TEL YOU NO LIES)

LOVERS AND LIES AND OTHER ALIBIS

A CHANCE ROMANCE UNDER THE STARS IN THE SKY

LOVERS WILL LEAVE YOU AND LIES ARE A GAURUNTEE

I'LL BE YOUR ALIBIS IF YOU WILL BE ONE FOR ME

(LOVERS AND LIES AND ALIBIS. LOVERS AND LIES AND ALIBIS)

I WILL DEFEND YOU

DID HE SEE YOU? NO.
ARE YOU SURE? HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I KNOW, I JUST KNOW.

CARLOS WILL KILL YOU, HE'LL KILL US BOTH.
JUST LET HIM TRY, THAT BASTARD.
DON'T SAY THAT, JUST KEEP IT DOWN.

I WILL PROTECT YOU. I WILL DEFEND YOU.
I WILL TAKE YOU AWAY.
NO MORE FEAR. NO MORE DISPARE.
YOU WILL NOT DIE AGAIN, TODAY.
YOU WILL NOT DIE AGAIN, TODAY.

HE WON'T LET ME LEAVE. YES.
ARE YOU SURE? HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I KNOW, I JUST KNOW.

CARLOS WILL KILL YOU, HE'LL KILL US BOTH.
JUST STICK TO THE PLAN, REMEMBER THE PLAN?
OK, COPY THAT. JUST KEEP IT DOWN.

I WILL PROTECT YOU. I WILL DEFEND YOU.
I WILL TAKE YOU AWAY.
NO MORE FEAR. NO MORE DISPARE.
YOU WILL NOT DIE AGAIN, TODAY.
YOU WILL NOT DIE AGAIN, TODAY.

DON'T YOU REMEMBER? NO.
ARE YOU SURE? COME ON THINK AGAIN.
I KNOW, BUT I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.

CARLOS WILL KILL YOU, HE'LL KILL US BOTH.
THAT'S WHY WE SHOULD GO. DON'T YOU AGREE?
DON'T SAY THAT, JUST KEEP IT DOWN.

I WILL PROTECT YOU. I WILL DEFEND YOU.
I WILL TAKE YOU AWAY.
NO MORE FEAR. NO MORE DISPARE.
YOU WILL NOT DIE AGAIN, TODAY.
YOU WILL NOT DIE AGAIN, TODAY.

JUST A DANCE

WOULD YOU DANCE WITH ME?
TAKE CHANCE WITH ME?
COME ON AND DANCE WITH ME, COME ON?
IT'S JUST A DANCE.

WOULD YOU TAKE MY HAND?
FEEL THE RYTHYM OF THE BAND
COME ON AND DANCE WITH ME, COME ON?
IT'S JUSTS A DANCE.

IT'S A SLOW SONG, AND THAT'S WHERE YOU AND I BELONG.
THIS IS NOT ROMANCE.
THIS IS JUST A DANCE.
JUST A DANCE.

THIS IS NOT A LINE.
BUT DO YOU KNOW THE TIME?
IT'S TIME TO DANCE WITH ME.
COME ON, IT'S JUST A DANCE.

IT'S A SLOW SONG, AND THAT'S WHERE YOU AND I BELONG.
THIS IS NOT ROMANCE.
THIS IS JUST A DANCE.
JUST A DANCE.

THE NIGHT IS SLIPPING BY.
BEFORE YOU GO WHY NOT GIVE US A TRY?
COME ON AND DANCE WITH ME?
COME ON? IT'S JUST A DANCE.

IT'S A SLOW SONG, AND THAT'S WHERE YOU AND I BELONG.
THIS IS NOT ROMANCE.
THIS IS JUST A DANCE.
JUST A DANCE.

MORE GOING DOWN

I WAIT BY THE PHONE.
YOU SAID THAT YOU WOULD CALL.
THERE'S SO MUCH TO TELL YOU.
REMEMBER OUR TIME LAST FALL?
REMEMBER OUR FIRST KISS?
THAT MOMENT IS TOPS ON MY LIST.
AN HOUR GOES BY AND I WONDER WHY YOU HAVEN'T CALLED?

I WONDER NOW AM I THE ONLY ONE?
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT THAN JUST THE SUN.
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT.

I THOUGHT IT WAS ME?
PERHAPS I WANT TOO MUCH?
I TOLD MYSELF, "THIS IS FINE
IF WE ARE SLIGHTLY OUT OF TOUCH."
IF WE ARE CHANGING LANES,
WHY CAN'T WE BE THE SAME?
AN EVENING GOES BY
AND I WONDER WHY
YOU HAVEN'T CALLED?

I WONDER NOW AM I THE ONLY ONE?
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT THAN JUST THE SUN.
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT.

THE TALK AROUND THE TOWN
IS THERE IS MORE GOING DOWN
THAN JUST THE SUN
WITH YOU AND I.
NOW I AM OK.

TODAY I HEARD THE NEWS.
YOU MOVED IN WITH "WHAT'S THEIR NAME."
YOU DO WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE.
YOU TOLD ME YOU'D BE AROUND
BUT THERE IS MORE GOING DOWN!
THE SUN WILL RISE!
THE SUN WILL SET!

I WONDER NOW AM I THE ONLY ONE?
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT THAN JUST THE SUN.
THERE'S MORE GOING DOWN TONIGHT.

ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE

I WHISPERED IN THE DARKNESS, "HELLO?"
I WAS LOOKING FOR THE ONE I USED TO KNOW.
I WAS LONGING FOR MY DAYS IN THE SUN.
I REMEMBER WHEN I WAS THE ONLY ONE

WHO COULD TURN YOUR HEAD,
BUT NOW INSTEAD
I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE?

AND I USED TO TURN YOUR HEAD,
BUT NOW INSTEAD
I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE.

AND IN THE SHADOWS I COULD HIDE.
AND ALL MY WORRIES WOULD STAY DEEP INSIDE.
MY OLD MEMORIES TOOK A HOLD OF ME.
AND I FOUND THAT I'M NOW HALF THE MAN I USED TO BE.

WHO COULD TURN YOUR HEAD,
BUT NOW INSTEAD
I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE?

AND I USED TO TURN YOUR HEAD,
BUT NOW INSTEAD
I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE.

NOW I SEE I'VE LEARNED TOO MUCH, TOO LATE.
NOW I'VE BECOME A PAWN OF TWISTED FATE.
NOW I'VE JOINED "THE CLUB OF BROKEN HEARTS."
NOW IT'S CRYSTAL CLEAR TO ME THAT "LOVE IS AN ART."

I USED TO TURN YOUR HEAD,
BUT NOW INSTEAD
I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE?

AND I USED TO TURN YOUR HEAD,
BUT NOW INSTEAD
I'M JUST ANOTHER ROSE ON THE VINE.

WHAT IF

WHAT IF I SAID, "I LOVE YOU?"
WHAT IF I TOOK THE CHANCE?
WHAT IF I STARTED BELIEVING
THAT "THIS COULD BE THE ONE ROMANCE"
THAT I'VE WAITED FOR?

WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE?
WHAT IF LOVE JUST COST A DIME?
BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT EASY
WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.
IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL.
IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE.
IT'S HARD TO REAMIN IN LOVE.

WHAT IF I SAID, "I'M SORRY?"
WHAT IS I COULD DRY YOUR TEARS?
WHAT IF I STARTED CHANGING?
WHAT IF I COULD GET BADCK ALL THOSE YEAR?
WHAT IF? WHAT IF?

WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE?
WHAT IF LOVE JUST COST A DIME?
BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT EASY
WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.
IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL.
IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE.
IT'S HARD TO REAMIN IN LOVE.

WHAT IF I JUST STAYED SILENT?
WHAT IF I COULD HEAR YOUR HEART?
WHAT IF I STARTED TO LISTEN?
WHAT IF I COULD GO " BACK TO START?"
WOULD THINGS HAVE CHANGED?

WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE?
WHAT IF LOVE JUST COST A DIME?
BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT EASY
WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.
IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL.
IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE.
IT'S HARD TO REAMIN IN LOVE.

WHEN I MET YOU

WHEN I MET YOU I KNEW RIGHT THEN.
THAT THINGS WOULD CHANGE.
I DIDN'T KNOW WHEN.
WHEN I MET YOU IT WAS ALL SO CLEAR
THAT THINGS WOULD BE CHANGING
STARTING RIGHT HERE.

WHEN I MET YOU AND LOOKED IN YOUR EYES.
YOU GAVE A WINK
AND MUCH TO MY SURPRISE.
WHEN I MET YOU
I PLACED MY BET
THAT THINGS WOULD BE CHANGING
AND WE COULD FORGET.

A LIFE OF, "NEVER-ENDING-WAITING-IN-LINE."
A "LIFE OF REGRETS" TIME AFTER TIME.
WE COULD JUST LEAVE AND START THINGS NEW.
I KNEW IT THEN. I FEEL IT NOW WHEN I MET YOU.

WHEN I MET YOU I COULD FEEL THE HEAT.
YOU TOOK MY HAND AND MADE ME FEEL YOUR HEART BEAT.
WHEN I MET YOU THE SEARCH WAS DONE.
YOU SAID, "LIFE IS WAITING
SO WE BETTER RUN" FROM A

A LIFE OF, "NEVER-ENDING-WAITING-IN-LINE."
A "LIFE OF REGRETS" TIME AFTER TIME.
WE COULD JUST LEAVE AND START THINGS NEW.
I KNEW IT THEN. I FEEL IT NOW WHEN I MET YOU.

WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?

WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?
WHAT ABOUT OUR DAYS IN THE SUN?
WHAT ABOUT THE NIGHTS WE SHARED
UNDER THAT MAGICAL, MYSTICAL, LIBRA MOON?

WE DRANK TEQUILLA.
WE DRANK SANGRIA.
WE FOUND A RYTHYM IN THE AIR.
LET'S GO BACK AGAIN.
WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?

WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?
WHAT ABOUT THE SAND UNDER OUR FEET?
WHAT ABOUT THE NIGHT WE GOT LOST
IN A TOWN WHERE NOBODY KNEW OUR NAME?

WE DRANK TEQUILLA.
WE DRANK SANGRIA.
WE FOUND A RYTHYM IN THE AIR.
LET'S GO BACK AGAIN.
WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?

AND NOW BACK IN THE CITY
I THINK I HAVE FORGOTTEN
THE SOUND OF THAT GUITAR
ON THE NIGHT WHEN WE MET.

WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?
WHAT CAN WE DO TO HOLD ON?
OUR MEMORIES SEEM TO FADE.
DON'T YOU MISS THAT MAGICAL, MYSTICAL, LIBRA MOON?

WE DRANK TEQUILLA.
WE DRANK SANGRIA.
WE FOUND A RYTHYM IN THE AIR.
LET'S GO BACK AGAIN.
WHAT ABOUT SPAIN?

AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN

AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN.
AFTER THE SILENCE AFTER THE PAIN.
AFTER THE MOMENT WHEN THE MOMENT'S GONE.
AFTER A WHILE YOU LEARN TO MOVE ON.

AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN.
AFTER IT'S DONE NO NEED TO EXPLAIN.
AFTER THE NIGHTMARES EASE INTO DREAMS.
AFTER A WHILE IT'S NOT AS BAD AS IT SEEMS.

AND THUNDER IS JUST A SOUND
AND ALL THE RAIN CAN DO IS COME DOWN AND DOWN.
NO NEED TO FEAR OR REFRAIN.
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER. IT'S JUST THE RAIN.

AFTER THE TUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN.
AFTER YOU DO WHAT YOU DO, YOU CANNOT EXPLAIN.
AFTER THE MOMENT YOU REALIZE "YOU ARE THE PAWN."
AFTER THAT MOMEMT YOU WAKE UP AND MOVE ON.

AND THUNDER IS JUST A SOUND
AND ALL THE RAIN CAN DO IS COME DOWN AND DOWN.
NO NEED TO FEAR OR REFRAIN.
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER. IT'S JUST THE RAIN.

AFTER THE THUNDER, AFTER THE RAIN.
AFTER A WHILE YOU ARE DONE WITH THE PAIN.
AFTER YOU LEAVE YOU NEVER LOOK BACK.
AFTER HE'S GONE YOU GET BACK ON TRACK.

AND THUNDER IS JUST A SOUND
AND ALL THE RAIN CAN DO IS COME DOWN AND DOWN.
NO NEED TO FEAR OR REFRAIN.
IT'S JUST THE THUNDER. IT'S JUST THE RAIN.

WHAT WOULD CHER DO?

IF CHER WAS IN TROUBLE
SHE WOULD KNOW WHAT TO DO.
WHEN LIFE GOT HER DOWN
SHE WOULD ALWAYS CHOOSE.
TO LOOK UP.
TO LOOK OUT.
TO LOOK AT THE STARS.
SHE SAYS, "WE ALL SLEEP ALONE."
SHE SAYS, "WE ALL HAVE OUR SCARS."

SO BELEIVE IN YOURSELF. NO NEED FOR ANYONE.
AND BELEIVE IN YOUR TRUTH 'CAUSE WHEN THE DAY IS DONE
FIND THE HEART OF THE GYPSY DEEP IN SIDE OF YOU.
"SNAP OUT OF IT." THAT'S WHAT CHER WOULD DO.

IF CHER HAD BEEN USED
SHE WOULD KNOW WHAT TO DO.
WHEN LOVE GOT HER DOWN
SHE WOULD ALWAYS CHOOSE.
LET THE MAN GO!
LET THE MAN DOWN!
LOOK AT THE STARS.
SHE SAYS, "THE WAY OF LOVE
IS THE WAY OF SCARS."

SO BELEIVE IN YOURSELF. NO NEED FOR ANYONE.
AND BELEIVE IN YOUR TRUTH 'CAUSE WHEN THE DAY IS DONE
FIND THE HEART OF THE GYPSY DEEP IN SIDE OF YOU.
"SNAP OUT OF IT." THAT'S WHAT CHER WOULD DO.

WHEN YOU MEAT A BOY
AND HE STEALS YOUR HEART LIKE A THIEF.
HIS KISSES WILL LIE
DON'T LOOK IN HIS EYES.
HE'S JUST A TRAMP,
HE'S JUST A THIEF.
HE'S JUST A GYPSY
WHO WILL ALWAYS USE YOU.
WHAT WOULD CHER DO?
WHAT WOULD CHER DO?

IF CHER WAS IN TROUBLE SHE WOULD KNOW WHAT TO DO.

SO BELEIVE IN YOURSELF. NO NEED FOR ANYONE.
AND BELEIVE IN YOUR TRUTH 'CAUSE WHEN THE DAY IS DONE
FIND THE HEART OF THE GYPSY DEEP IN SIDE OF YOU.
"SNAP OUT OF IT." THAT'S WHAT CHER WOULD DO.

THE ONION

YOU BROKE MY HEART I LET IT GO.
I DIED IN SIDE YOU DIDN'T KNOW.
I JUST GO ON 'CAUSE THAT IS WHAT YOU DO.
THEY SAY, "FORGIVING IS THE RIGHTEST THING THAT YOU CAN DO."

WHY DOES TIME GO BY SO FAST?
WHY DON'T THE GOOD TIMES SEEM TO LAST?
WHEN DID YOU KNOW THAT WE WERE THROUGH?
AM I TO OLD TO START SOMETHING NEW?

YOU CUT AN ONION, SOMETIMES YOU CRY.
YOU SEE A BIRD, WHISH YOU COULD FLY.
WHEN LIFE IS TOUGH YOU STAND YOUR GROUND.
SOMETIMES THE LOVE YOU GIVE COMES BACK AROUND.

WHAT ABOUT THE PROMISES WE KEEP?
WHEN JILL LEFT JACK DID HE WEEP?
WHY HAVE ROSES LOST THEIR SCENT?
WHEN I HURT YOU THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT TO DO.

REMEMBER "SEASONS IN THE SUN?"
DO YOU THINK THAT BLONDES HAVE ALL THE FUN?
PLEASE TELL ME WHY EGGS ARE SHAPED THE SAME.
I NEVER LIKED WHEN SNOW TURNED INTO RAIN.

YOU CUT AN ONION, SOMETIMES YOU CRY.
YOU SEE A BIRD, WHISH YOU COULD FLY.
WHEN LIFE IS TOUGH YOU STAND YOUR GROUND.
SOMETIMES THE LOVE YOU GIVE COMES BACK AROUND.

REMEMBER OUR SUNDAY AFTERNOONS?
HOW DID ROBIN'S LEARN THEIR TUNES?
REMEMBER WHEN I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR NAME?
REMEMBER WHEN I DID NOT TAKE THE BLAME?

IS IT TRUE THE SKY IS BLUE?
I KNOW IT'S TRUE THAT I LOVE YOU.
COULD SOMEONE PLEASE TELL ME WHY
WHEN I CUT AN ONION SOMETIMES I CRY?

YOU CUT AN ONION, SOMETIMES YOU CRY
YOU SEE A BIRD, WHISH YOU COULD FLY.
WHEN LIFE IS TOUGH YOU STAND YOUR GROUND.
SOMETIMES THE LOVE YOU GIVE COMES BACK AROUND.

