

VIVIAN SCENE 9

BRODY

There's five thousand in here. We said ten thousand.

VIVIAN

Carla? Carla counted it.

CARLA

(to Vivian:)

You said five. You wrote down five.

BRODY

No, it's always been ten, because of first and last, plus security deposit.

VIVIAN

That's Carla's mistake. Not mine.

CARLA

Throwing me under the bus now?

BRODY

Maybe it wasn't a mistake. Honestly, she seems kind of against this.

CARLA

(searching her pockets)

I swear you wrote down five!

BRODY

Could have been a subconscious thing. Look, if she's against this, I don't know...

VIVIAN

Carla's fine...it was probably my mistake.

BRODY

Well which is it? What the hell?

(Vivian crosses to him quickly, in desperation, leaving her walker behind.)

VIVIAN

Look, there's nothing wrong here Bobby, or Billy, and if I'm not knowing you correctly, don't think badly of me! I'm mostly polite. I'm just here begging you to...revise this, it's it's going on too long. It's a hard edit we need a hard edit so I am asking you to have this money or more money. That's fine. But let me take this bag and make...the change. Please.

BRODY

I...I don't know what she's talking about.

CARLA

She has Alzheimer's.

(Val and Di exit.)

VIVIAN

No no no no no no no

CARLA

It's actually mild cognitive impairment at this stage.

BRODY

Does she even have cancer?

VIVIAN

It's worse, it's worse.

BRODY

(to Vivian:)

Where are we? Right now.

VIVIAN

In the parking lot.

BRODY

What city?

VIVIAN

...I'm not going to

BRODY

What country?

VIVIAN

...

A place where you can't get out.

(Brody puts the fanny pack on the storage container, takes the shopping bag.)

BRODY

This is too, I'm not comfortable.... I'm sorry.

(Brody leaves. A small moment.)

CARLA

Vivian...You left the walker. You weren't making sense. He could tell!

(Pause)

It was time to be honest.

VIVIAN

You decided.

CARLA

I'm going to support you through this.

VIVIAN

It's all about you.

CARLA

It's not.

VIVIAN

You know why your mom liked Wanda?

CARLA

Don't

VIVIAN

Because Wanda gave her the space to let go.

CARLA

I'm not talking about that right now

VIVIAN

You cling on.

CARLA

You don't really know me.

VIVIAN
Your mom needed to escape you.

CARLA
Fuck you.

VIVIAN
I'm just telling you. It's time to be honest.

CARLA
You are so manipulative.

VIVIAN
In ancient cultures, they could acknowledge death.

CARLA
No, you can't make this a history lesson after telling me that I KILLED MY MOM

VIVIAN
AND YOU CAN'T TAKE THINGS FROM PEOPLE THAT AREN'T YOURS

CARLA
I didn't—

VIVIAN
All of us are going to die. WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE

CARLA
You're a coward. You don't have the guts to face what life has dealt you.

VIVIAN
Oh and you're so brave? You think your mom's death makes you wise, but it's only made you blind. You'll write a college essay about it, and everyone will think you're so strong. But I know the truth. You'll always be motherless and afraid.

(Carla slaps Vivian. Beat.)

VIVIAN
One more time oughtta do it. Just a little bit harder.

(Carla, filled with anguish, stumbles offstage.)