

INDECENT 2024 (OPENING ROUGH DRAFT)

Scene 1: Married couple Shannon and Sterling have a disagreement over asking his boss for money to bail them out financially.

Scene 2: Cocky boss comes over to have dinner, but he knows this is about much more. However in this scene he plays it cool, but you can still see traces of his confidence and power peeping through.

SCENE 1: SHANNON AND RICHMOND - HUSBAND AND WIFE HAVE A DISAGREEMENT ON SAVING THEIR FINANCIAL COLLAPSE.

INT. CARSON HOME - DAY

RICHMOND

You know what I don't understand? I don't understand why you are angry at me.

SHANNON

I never said I was angry at you.

RICHMOND

You don't have to say it. Its displayed every time you look at me. In every agitated movement of yours when I come near. The way you avert your eyes when I *look at you.* **All of those things tell the story.**

SHANNON

(dismissive)

You're overreacting. I am just upset at our **situation** that's all.

RICHMOND

And you think I'm a fool? I know you. I know all about your ups and downs. I know the reason behind your mood swings. But most of all, I know when you have issues with me. **I want to know why??**

Shannon takes a moment before deciding to come clean.

SHANNON

Why do you think Richmond? Why do you think I am upset with you?

RICHMOND

I don't know exactly, **that's why I am asking.**

SHANNON

We are about to lose everything..

RICHMOND

The key word here is we....**'We'** are about to lose everything.

(MORE)

RICHMOND (CONT'D)

'We' are in the same boat. You and I are in this together.

SHANNON

But you could have stopped it.

The words out of Shannon's mouth gives Richmond an instant understanding.

RICHMOND

Awww so that's what this is about. You're upset because I didn't ask my boss for money.

SHANNON

You told me you would do everything in your power to make sure we never struggled. All you had to do was ask your boss and we *wouldn't* be losing anything.

RICHMOND

There is no guarantee that he would loan me the money if I asked.

SHANNON

But at least I'd know you tried. ***I'd understand that you did your best.***

RICHMOND

That is inappropriate asking my boss for that kind of money.

SHANNON

Your millionaire boss? The same superior that has you working last minute weekends?

RICHMOND

I'm paid for those last minute weekends. Asking me to work paid shifts is not something I have done for free. *Something that would make it easier on his conscious to loan me over 100 thousand dollars.*

SHANNON

The point I am making is that you were there for him when he needed you. Why can't you allow him to there for you?

RICHMOND

(matter of fact)

I am not asking my boss for that kind of money. How would I ever ever begin to pay him back? I'd be working the next two years for free. That would do nothing but put us back in the same position as now, only with even more debt.

SHANNON

You're making excuses Richmond and allowing your pride to send us out to the streets.

RICHMOND

This has nothing to do with my pride.

SHANNON

It has everything to do with your pride! Its bad enough that you don't care being on the street or me for that matter, but I am pregnant. You don't have a problem with our baby being born in a homeless tent??

SCENE 2: Shannon has convinced her husband to invite his boss over to ask for money. Things go the opposite way.

Edited for the purpose of the audition

STERLING has been invited for dinner, but he is used to this type of 'treatment'.

SHANNON (CONT'D)

(hopeful)

So how was your dinner?

STERLING

Dinner was great. Is now the time that you are going to tell me the true reason why you invited me over?

The comment throws Shannon and Richmond off. They glance at one another uncomfortably. Sterling studies the interaction.

STERLING (CONT'D)

You seem surprised by the question.

SHANNON

Well, we are. *The real reason?*

STERLING

Of course. The true root of this dinner invitation. It wasn't just to thank me for being a boss.

Shannon and Richmond briefly lock eyes again. This time the regret is starting to surface on the face of Richmond.

SHANNON

I don't know what you mean?
Richmond and I wanted to thank you for being such a generous employer. The overtime and bonuses have been a God Send.

STERLING

And that's all you wanted?

SHANNON

(slight stutter)
Yes...that's..that's all.

A semi wicked smile comes across Sterlings face.

STERLING

Are you sure? Because being shy now and allowing me to walk out of that door is not going to help your situation.... *if there is one.*

Richmond doesn't like the cocky tone in Sterlings voice.

RICHMOND

With all due respect..sir, she said there is only one reason we invited you over. Nothing else.

Shannon taps Richmond's hand. Maybe as a sign that they need to come clean. Sterling is loving this and plays on...

STERLING

Ok. Well then I'll simply thank you back for the delicious dinner and bid you two a farewell. The Syncopese meetings are this week and I need to do a little prep work. *You two have a wonderful evening.*

Sterling stands and turns towards the door. Shannon can't contain herself.

SHANNON

Sterling wait...

Richmond is not happy. Sterling with his back turned to the couple as he heads towards the door, stops in his tracks without turning and smiles.