

BULER FERRIS

Quick casting for Buler

INT. CRANE HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

PETER FRANKLIN sits on the sofa eating a bowl of oatmeal and flipping through a newspaper.

Peter takes a final bite of food before making a 'disgusted face' and sitting the bowl on the side table near him.

BULER CRANE walks into the room.

BULER

I am almost ready Pete. Just trying to find my keys. You finished your oatmeal?

PETER

Is that what this is?

Buler notices the bowl sitting on the side table half full.

BULER

You haven't eaten much of it.

PETER

And I don't intend to. It honestly tastes like warmed over pig slop.

BULER

Go to hell. Is that the way you treat your buddy who just cooked you breakfast?

PETER

Yeah when it tastes like this. What are you trying to do, kill me?

BULER

Hardy har har har.

PETER

I like it when Ferris cooks breakfast. Your wife cooks a mean, seasoned oatmeal.

BULER

Well my wife is not here now. Be grateful.

PETER

You're supposed to supply me with energy before we hit the studio, not crap that will slow my heart rate down.

(MORE)

PETER (CONT'D)

We are producing pop rock, not
ballads that belong in funeral
homes.

Buler is instantly distracted by a thought.

BULER

You are very funny. But you know
what, I just remembered that I left
the keys in my Boston Coat pocket.

Buler pivots, and heads towards the master bedroom when the
sound of a distinctive PHONE RING pierces the air.

Buler stops in his tracks. *He locks eyes with Pete.*

BULER (CONT'D)

Is that your cell?

Peter checks his device just to make sure.

PETER

No.

BULER

Yeah I didn't think so. Sounds like
Ferris's ring tone. *She Must have
left it here.*

Buler starts to look around trying to find the location of
the phone. Peter eye searches as well.

PETER

(amused)

Does she leave her phone behind
often?

BULER

No of course not. She knows its
dangerous to be on these roads
without her cell.

Buler seems to notice that the sound is coming from behind
the sofa. He bends down and finally locates the device.

Buler decides to answer the call.

BULER (CONT'D)

(into the phone)

Hello? She is not available right
now. Who am speaking with? This is
her husband....*From The Hartford
Clinic?* What is this about?

(MORE)

BULER (CONT'D)

I explained to you that I am her husband. I can take whatever message for her.

Whatever the person on the phone says next stuns Buler.

BULER (CONT'D)

(continuing phone call)

You're following up on what? I think you have the wrong person...I... Are you sure we are talking about Ferris Crane?...No I didn't know anything about..

A recent memory pops into the head of Buler..Buler slowly removes the phone from his ear. He is in deep thought and the memory has him in a bit of a shock.

Buler then puts the phone back to his ear.

BULER (CONT'D)

(dry; detached)

I'll have her call you when she gets back in.

Buler disconnects without waiting for a response. He looks as if he has just seen a ghost. Peter is concerned.

PETER

What was that all about?

Buler paces the floor in silence.

PETER (CONT'D)

Buler???

Buler turns and faces Peter. Words are having trouble releasing from his mouth. He seems to be in some sort of shock. A few moments pass before Buler is able to release...

BULER

That was Hartford Clinic. The abortion facility. They were calling to see how Ferris was doing after her procedure.

PETER

What? An *abortion*? Wait how is that even possible? They obviously have the wrong person.

BULER

They said her name.

PETER

(a beat)

Well did they actually say the word abortion? I mean she could have gone in for any type of procedure.

BULER

Anyone who knows the history of Hartford's controversy in the news understands that their practice is strictly abortions.

The expansion of the realization in his mind causes Buler to almost lose balance. He leans against the sofa to keep himself upright.

PETER

Buler calm down. I am sure there is a logical explanation for this.

BULER

IF she had any type of procedure why wouldn't she tell me?

PETER

I don't know ...but I don't think you should jump to conclusions until you speak to her.

BULER

Jump to conclusions? I just found out my wife disposed of our child and I didn't even know she was pregnant. **As a matter of fact...** she told me she couldn't have kids.

PETER

(stunned)

What?

Buler paces to keep his emotions from exploding.

BULER

Yes. That's why we had those problems a few months back. I told you it was another reason just to protect her privacy, but the truth is, I was angry at Ferris because she waited until after we were married to tell me that she could not become pregnant.

PETER
(stunned)
My God.

BULER
We got through it, but why did she lie? Why did she take the life of our **possibility** without even telling me that she was pregnant in the first place???

PETER
(matter of fact)
You don't know the full story.
Let's wait..

Buler lets it all sink in for a second before slamming his hand on the sofa and turning away.

The sound of KEYS can be heard coming from the front door. A hurried and frazzled FERRIS enters the room.

Buler and Peter's eyes lock on her.

FERRIS
Oh My GOD Buler, I was halfway to work when I realized I didn't have my phone. You know I need that in case of an emergency.

Buler doesn't say a word. His eyes are locked on Ferris. Ferris doesn't pick up on the dark vibe in the room. Her mind is focused on finding her phone. It takes her a minute to notice Peter sitting on the sofa.