

ON THE RUN WITH LOVE

Revision 1

by

DUTCH
&
JM BENJAMIN

based on the novel
On The Run With Love

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1 INT. KOD - NIGHT

FREDDIE lays his head back on the couch. We see a head bobbing up and down, giving him head. It is TINA but we don't see her face. *

Liquor bottles litter the table. He is a man that has everything he wants but has lost everything he needs. He looks up as someone approaches. The first shot hits him.

Tina ducks away, screaming. *

The scene is muted and slowed down. Gunshots are all we hear.

Freddie is shot twice more, a bullet shatters one of the bottles. He shakes in the chair as the bullets hit him. We see the club from behind him. The club is in chaos.

2 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

We are looking at the back of Freddie's head in a barber's chair.

BUTCH (OS)

Pimpin is easy when a player looks good.

Butch spins the chair around to face the camera and for the first time, the audience sees Freddie in all his glory looking movie-star gorgeous and razor-sharp.

FREDDIE

Naw unc, my pimping days are over. I'm a one-woman man these days. We see the other barber JAMES cutting a dude's head in the next chair.

BUTCH

I still can't believe goddamn Freddie Cole is getting married.

FREDDIE

Shit, neither did I. But Simone is a game-changer.

JAMES

I thought the same thing about my first wife and my second, and third....

BUTCH

(LAUGHING)

Nigguh, you just a sucker for love!
But Freddie, now this mofo had some of
the baddest bitches I ever seen.
Nigguh you was my hero!

FREDDIE

Naw Unc, you just don't know. See, you
see these broads at their best, but
you don't see them, mascara running,
banging at your door at two in the
morning butt naked with a butcher
knife and a broken heart.

BUTCH

Man, the day a butt-naked woman at my
door becomes a problem, I'll be the
first one in line looking for trouble!

JAMES

Right behind me!

They all laugh. SLUG, (25 big muscular, black) and KANDI (20'S
thick redbone), bust through the door. Slug has Kandi by the
arm and a gun in the other hand. Kandi and Freddie's eyes
meet.

SLUG

Which one is Freddie, bitch?

KANDI

Him, baby! You're hurting me!

Slug releases her with a shove and then steps in front of
Freddie.

SLUG

You know her?

FREDDIE

Nigguh, you can't be serious.

SLUG

Motherfucka did you fuck my wife?

FREDDIE

(laughing)

wife?

KANDI

I said-

SLUG

Shut the fuck-

That split second is all Freddie needs to grab the clippers out of Butch's hand by the cord and swing them into Slug's face, knocking him off balance.

Freddie jumps out of the chair and commences to beat Slug down, dropping him to the floor.

Slug drops the gun. Freddie picks it up and begins pistol-whipping Slug with it. Kandi jumps on Freddie's back.

KANDI

Get off him!

Freddie slings her off his back.

FREDDIE

Stupid bitch! Y'all deserve one another!

KANDI

You ain't shit, Freddie!

FREDDIE

Neither is your raggedy-ass pussy! Why you think I ain't call you back?

Freddie tucks the pistol as he walks out laughing. Kandi kneels beside an unconscious Slug.

KANDI

You gonna get yours, Freddie, you gonna get yours!

Freddie pulls the cape from his neck and hands Butch some money.

FREDDIE

Sorry about that, Unc.

He walks out of the shop.

3 INT. FREDDIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

It's Freddie and Simone's engagement party. Black, Dionne,

*

Mom, Butch, and James are all in attendance.

There is a sizable crowd mingling and dancing. Simone is showing off her ring to a circle of women, while Freddie is talking with CREAM and Brianna. Butch and James are present as well as a hand full of other guests including Dionne.

CREAM (OS)

Cuzzo!

Freddie looks and sees Cream and Brianna enter the room.

FREDDIE

My dude.

Freddie and Cream embrace.

FREDDIE

Niggh, what is your country ass doing up in the Bricks?

CREAM

You know I couldn't miss seeing the woman that locked my lil' cuz down.

They laugh.

CREAM

This is my lady, Brianna. Bri, this is Freddie.

BRIANNA

(shaking hands)

Nice to meet you, even though I feel like I already know you, as much as Cream talks about you.

FREDDIE

Same here. Hold up. Simone!

Cream and Freddie look in Simone's direction, while Brianna is checking Freddie out. She is attracted to him. Simone comes over.

FREDDIE

Bae, this is my cousin, Cream, and his lady Brianna.

SIMONE

Hi, how are you?

BRIANNA

(looks at the ring)

Okay, I see you Miss Bling. You gotta tell me how to get one of these out of this one here.

Freddie and Cream walk off.

FREDDIE

I'm glad you made it.

CREAM

I saw the post, so I couldn't resist surprising you.

FREDDIE

Now, what's the real reason you came?

CREAM

Real reason? To share your happiness.

FREDDIE

Nigguh, I ain't seen you since I came home and you drive all the way up here for a party? I love you to death, but I know you, too.

CREAM

Okay, okay, I'm trying to make it shake back in the A.

Mom walks over.

MOM

Come dance with me, son.

FREDDIE

Hold that thought, Cream.

CREAM

Gotta save me a dance too, auntie.

Freddie dances with his mom. Simone smiles as she watches on.

MOM

I'm proud of you, Freddie.

FREDDIE

Is that right?

MOM

Yes. You did good with Simone. She beautiful, smart, comes from a good family.

FREDDIE

They didn't even show up tonight.

MOM

Well you didn't exactly make this easy for them to accept you either. Jumping from bed to bed, acting just like your father. Women aren't just scorned anymore, they are much worst nowadays. I'm happy you finally stopped playing around and asked her to marry you.

Freddie smiles at Simone and extends his hand to her and she comes over to dance with them.

Cream and Breanna join in on the fun.

4 INT. FREDDIE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Freddie and Cream are off to themselves.

FREDDIE

So what's up?

CREAM

Like I was saying, It's a drought in the A, so I'm trying to make it rain.

FREDDIE

Man, I don't fuck around no more. I ain't trying to go back.

CREAM

Nigguh, you did a punk-ass three years, I did eight.

FREDDIE

And you still ain't learn?

Cream playfully boxes him.

CREAM

Man, fuck you. No guts, no glory.

FREDDIE

What happened to your last connect?

CREAM

Fuckin New York ass niggah, thought he
could play me so, you know, play
stupid games...

He makes a gun with his hands.

FREDDIE

Naw, you was just on that bullshit.

CREAM

Either way, you family, so you know
I'm gonna play fair.

Freddie starts to answer but his phone rings.

We see an image of GINA on his phone, looking deliciously
inviting. Freddie steps away from Cream and answers.

FREDDIE

I can't talk right now, but I'm sure
you know that.

CUT TO:

5 EXT.CONDO - BEDROOM. NIGHT

THE CAMERA DOES A SLOW PAN FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE BED, WHERE
WE SEE SILK SHEETS BUNCHED UP, THEN WE SEE GINA'S PERFECTLY
PEDICURED TOES. THE CAMERA TRAVELS UP TO HER CALF.

GINA

Who said I want to talk?

FREDDIE

What else do people usually do on the
phone?

GINA

Face-time me and I'll show you.

Freddie glances around then Face-Times Gina, she is
masturbating.

GINA

Peek a boo.

FREDDIE

I'm at my engagement party, Gina.

GINA
Then come here, so I can give you your
wedding gift.

Sucks her fingers.

FREDDIE
I told you we had to chill for a sec.

GINA
I know, but you didn't mean it. She
may be your obsession but I'm your
addiction. Come get your fix.

Freddie looks around.

FREDDIE
You got that for me, though?

GINA
(rolling eyes)
Yes, Freddie. Now hurry up, I've
already started without you.

FREDDIE
I'm not playing with you, Gina. You
better have it when I get there too.

GINA
It will be here when you...cum(moan).

6 INT. FREDDIE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Freddie hangs up. He looks over at Simone. She is talking to
Cream and Brianna. Freddie approaches and hugs her from
behind.

SIMONE
Rude. Your cousin comes all the way up
here and you're on the phone.

FREDDIE
I gotta go handle something. I'll be
back soon.

Freddie kisses her neck.

SIMONE
Okay.

Freddie kisses her again and walks out the door. Simone

stares after him in disappointment.

*

7 INT. CONDO - NIGHT

Freddie walks in with a key. He hears the music playing softly. He takes a few steps and sees Gina's stilettos strewn haphazardly on the rug. As he walks toward the bedroom, he sees her fur, then her dress, her bra, and her panties. Freddie enters. Gina is spread out on the bed.

GINA

You like?

FREDDIE

My favorite color.

GINA

It's ready for you to taste? Freddie kisses her leg. She pulls him up on top of him.

QUICK CUTS OF EROTIC SEX.

8 INT. CONDO - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gina is laying on Freddie's chest.

GINA

I heard about you and Slug at the barber shop.

FREDDIE

Who told you?

GINA

Hello, I run this city. I know everything.

FREDDIE

Correction, your uncle runs this city.

GINA

Oh, you doubting my gangsta?

FREDDIE

(he smiles)

I don't want no smoke.

GINA

That's what I thought.

(beat)

Seriously, Freddie, they work for my
uncle and I know how they get down.
Let me talk-

FREDDIE

I don't need you to talk for me, Gina,
I can handle mines.

GINA

Baby, you don't have anything to
prove. Just let it go.

FREDDIE

He brought that shit to me! I'm
chillin', but if he want it, he can
get it, no cap.

He gets off of her and sits on the side of the bed. He grabs
his pants to put them on.

GINA

And then what? They come back, then
you, then all y'all dead? Baby, think.
You did your time, don't let nobody
pull you down. You have so much
potential, so much energy, Freddie.
That's why I wanted to tell you that
I...

Gina stops short.

FREDDIE

That's why you what?

GINA

Nothing.

Freddie grabs his shirt to put on.

FREDDIE

You got me right? Where is it?

Gina mean-mugs Freddie. She opens the drawer next to the bed
and pulls out a wad of cash. She throws it at him.

GINA

Just go, Freddie, run away little boy,
back to your little girlfriend, okay?

Gina turns away from him. Freddie stands up and continues to
put on his clothes. He kisses Gina on the cheek.

FREDDIE

You know you always gonna be mine
right. I'll call you.

GINA

Don't bother.

Freddie walks out.

9 INT. FREDDIE APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Freddie is standing in the doorway looking at Simone
sleeping. She is angelic. He walks into the bathroom.

A beat.

Simone opens her eyes as the shower comes on.

10 INT. MAN MAN'S CAR - DAY

MAN MAN is driving. Slug is in the passenger seat.

MAN MAN

You a stupid muthafucka. You got
knocked out over a bitch?!

SLUG

Yo dog, that's my wife!

MAN MAN

Man, I told you when you was in the
feds, she was out here.

SLUG

I don't want to hear that shit. She's
still my wife and I love her.

Man Man shakes his head.

11 INT. HOOD RESTAURANT # 1 - DAY

Freddie and Cream are eating.

CREAM

I'm telling you cuz, it's wide open.
We can get to the bag, all we need is
the plug.

FREDDIE

And I told you, I ain't got the plug
no more.

CREAM

Freddie, I know you, this me. We used to piss the bed together and eat cereal with the same spoon, I know you spinning me right now.

12 INTERCUT W/: MAN MAN AND SLUG - CAR

SLUG

I'm telling you B, I'ma crush that niggah on sight, that's on God.

MAN MAN

We gonna see cause we in his hood now.

Slug pulls out his gun and cocks it back.

SLUG

Say less.

13 INTERCUT: FREDDIE AND CREAM

CREAM

A trucking company?

FREDDIE

Facts. Nigguhs eating off that shit. I almost got enough for my first truck.

CREAM

How much that shit cost?

FREDDIE

Like sixty racks with the trailer and I got like thirty-eight.

CREAM

Niggah, let's flip that thirty-eight and you can get two trucks and a horse for all I care

14 INTERCUT W/: MAN MAN AND SLUG

MAN MAN

You see him?

SLUG

Naw.

MAN MAN

Don't worry, we will.

15 INT. HOSPITAL - CAFETERIA - DAY

Simone is in scrubs at a table with her friend DIONNE, eating. Dionne is scrolling through her phone. Simone is studying.

DIONNE

Oh look, Megan The Stallion is doing something at the mall right now, let's go up there.

SIMONE

Girl, what?

DIONNE

What?

SIMONE

Dionne, we have Branson's test in two hours.

DIONNE

So, we can make it there and make it to class on time.

SIMONE

In this lunch traffic? Getting out this hospital with that stupid ass light right there, is a pain by itself. Uh-uh, I am working too hard to become a-

Dionne already knows what Simone is going to say, she says it with her.

SIMONE AND DIONNE

Neurosurgical nurse practitioner-

SIMONE

Exactly. I am not missing Branson's exam.

DIONNE

It's Meg The Stallion though.

SIMONE

Neurosurgical nurse practitioners. Don't care about Meg, and even Meg graduated.

DIONNE

I knew you was gonna say that.

SIMONE

Because it's true. Be like Meg and study for this test.

Simone pushes the book to Dionne.

16 EXT. HOOD RESTAURANT # 1- DAY

Cream and Freddie are coming out.

CREAM

I feel you though cuz, you got a vision, a square ass vision but still, we street niggahs, ain't shit can change that.

FREDDIE

I can change it.

17 INTERCUT W/: MAN MAN AND SLUG

MAN MAN

There he go!

SLUG

Pull over!

Freddie and Cream are getting in Freddie's car. Both doors are open. Slug and Man Man come out of nowhere and open fire. Freddie doesn't hesitate to return fire.

They duck behind cars. Cream stays low as Freddie fires at Slug and Man Man.

FREDDIE

Shoot back nigga!

CREAM

I don't have my blick.

FREDDIE

You fucking serious?

In the exchange, Freddie blows Man Man's brains out.

SLUG

Oh shit, Man Man! Fuck!

An off-duty cop, PARKS(25) comes out of the store and draws her weapon and badge. She yells to her friend.

PARKS
Call 911.

She runs towards Freddie.

PARKS
Police, drop your weapons, now!

Freddie spins, and shoots without thinking, he shoots Parks.
He can't believe it.

CREAM
Cuz, we gotta go!

Freddie and Cream run off, while Slug gets in Man Man's car and skids off. We hear sirens in the background.

18 EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Freddie is breathing hard, in a daze, staring at the gun in his hand. Cream walks up.

FREDDIE
Fuck Man! Fuck! .

CREAM
We good. Just gotta get rid of it.

Freddie releases the gun to Cream. Cream wipes the gun with his shirt and tosses it in the dumpster/sewer drain.

19 INT. DANTE'S APARTMENT - DAY

DANTE is pacing in front of a visibly nervous Slug. Dante's two murder mommies DESI and MARIE, two beautiful Spanish females, are holding equally beautiful fully automatic Dracos, eyeing Slug.

SLUG
Tay, I'm sor-

Dante pulls a gun, puts it in Slug's face, and pins him to the wall.

DANTE
You got my brother killed over that slut ass bitch of yours.

SLUG

Tay man, I swear-

DANTE

You left him in the fucking street like a piece of trash. You should be laying in the street next to him.

DESI

Say the word, Papi.

SLUG

Tay, I'm going to find that bitch ass niggah, on God.

DANTE

No, I am. Now, what's his fucking name?

GINA (O.S.)

Freddie...

20 INT. CONDO - BEDROOM - DAY

Gina is watching the crime scene on TV. She sees Freddie's car with the caption: OFFICER SHOT AT THE SCENE.

GINA

Baby, what have you done?

21 EXT. HOOD RESTAURANT # 1 - DAY

Yellow tape is strung around Freddie's car, as TWO UNIFORMED OFFICERS go over it for clues. Detectives WILSON (55) and JONES (30) are standing by the car. Det. Jones reading from a notepad.

JONES

Few witnesses say that there were four men involved in the shootout. Two were eating in the restaurant, and came out to bullets. The third guy was with the guy with a hole in his head. The deceased name is Manuel Mincey. List of priors, mostly drugs, and assaults.

WILSON

That's the official version, now tell me who he is?

JONES
I just did.

WILSON
You're not a patrolman anymore Jones,
think. Mincey, ring any bells?

Jones thinks.

WILSON
Manuel Mincey aka Man Man, brother of
Dante Mincey. Remember that double
homicide over on 3rd about a week ago?

JONES
Yeah, two males, ages-

WILSON
I was there. That was Dante's work.
Turf beef. We may have a war on our
hands.

JONES
(sarcastically)
Great.

22 INT. DANTE'S APARTMENT - DAY

DANTE
Freddie Cole? That niggah from Avon?
(To the murder mommies)
I want him dead! I want his family
dead! Erase that niggah!

23 EXT. HOOD RESTAURANT # 1 - DAY

Meanwhile, at the crime scene.

JONES
The car's registered to-

WILSON
Let me guess. A woman.

JONES
Yeah. How'd you know?

WILSON
These hoodlums always put their cars
and residencies in their mama's name,
or their baby mama's, or their baby

mama's mama's name. Now we have to find out who really owns the car. What's her name?

24 INT. FREDDIE APARTMENT - DAY

Freddie bursts through the door full throttle.

FREDDIE

Simone!

He heads straight for the closet and grabs a duffle bag. Simone comes out of the back.

SIMONE

Bae, guess what? I aced my test.

Freddie stops for a moment to take in what she just said.

He quickly returns to urgency.

FREDDIE

Pack up, we gotta go!

SIMONE

Pack up? Go? What are you talking about, Freddie? Why is your face all sweaty?

Freddie is taking all of the money out of a small safe on the closet floor. Simone is right behind him.

FREDDIE

I think I shot a cop.

SIMONE

What?! Oh my god, Freddie!

FREDDIE

It was her or me, Simone, what the fuck you expect me to do?!

SIMONE

What happened?

Freddie makes his way to the bedroom. Simone follows him.

SIMONE

What's going on, Freddie. Talk to me.

Freddie turns and grabs her hands?

FREDDIE

I got in a fight a few days ago at the barber shop. Beat this nigga down and he came back shooting at me... Shit happened fast as fuck. We have to go.

SIMONE

Why were you fighting?

FREDDIE

I don't have time to explain all of this-

SIMONE

Why were you fighting, Freddie?

Not wanting to answer.

FREDDIE

Dude thought I fucked his wife, he came in buggin'.

SIMONE

(snatches away)

Did you?

FREDDIE

She's a stripper... She gave me a couple of lap dances, that's it. Homeboy is just tripping.

SIMONE

Did you have sex with her, Freddie?

FREDDIE

No! Hell no! It was just some dances!

Simone steps closer to Freddie

SIMONE

The other night, after the engagement party, did you go see another woman?

FREDDIE

Another wo-- No, Simone.

SIMONE

Don't lie to me, Freddie!

FREDDIE

Simone, I swear to you, it's only you

in my heart... You the only woman that matters. Look at this ring. That's us, baby... that's what's real.

SIMONE

Freddie.

FREDDIE

Simone, I have to go... You understand? We have to go.

SIMONE

But what about me? What about my life, my dreams, school. I just can't up and leave, Freddie.

FREDDIE

You can do all of that, somewhere else. I have to get away long enough to straighten this shit out. I need you with me, Simone.

SIMONE

Some dude thinks you fucked his wife and wants to kill you... you shoot a cop... and I'm supposed to uproot my life to go on the run? I...I don't know.

FREDDIE

Please, baby. I can't live without you. I need you. Please.

Simone looks at him.

SIMONE

I need some time.

She brushes past him.

25 INT. FREDDIE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Detectives Wilson and Jones kick in the door and rush inside the apartment, followed by several officers, guns drawn and checking every room.

Wilson and Jones enter the bedroom. Wilson and Jones look around, holstering their weapons. They see the open dresser drawers.

JONES

Looks like they left in a hurry.

Wilson looks at a picture of Freddie and Simone on the nightstand.

WILSON

Cute couple. Thinks she has any idea what she's getting into?

JONES

So, you think she's involved?

WILSON

Only her heart.

Wilson steps in front of the closet and looks at the clothes inside. It is clear that some clothes are missing.

WILSON (CONTD)

Jones, you're young and hip to the styles, right?

JONES

Hip?

WILSON

Look at this and tell me what's missing.

Jones looks for a beat.

JONES

How would I know, if I don't know what was there?

WILSON

See all the coats, all the sweaters and sweatshirts? It's going to get cold soon, so why leave them?

JONES

Too much, in a hurry?

WILSON

Do you know what it tells us?

JONES

What?

WILSON
Where they're going.

26 INT. CREAM'S CAR - DAY

Cream is driving and Brianna is in the passenger seat. Freddie and Simone are in the back seat. Simone is pissed, staring out the window. Freddie grabs her hand.

FREDDIE
I'm sorry, babe. I know you just left your entire life back there for me.

SIMONE
No, you left my car at the scene and brought me into your shit. I didn't have a choice.

FREDDIE
You're right, I'm gonna make it up to you, I promise.

SIMONE
Whatever, Freddie.

He kisses her hand and lays his head on her shoulder. Brianna pulls down the visor and puts on lipstick in the mirror. She adjusts the visor so her eyes meet Freddie's face. Freddie looks up and his and Brianna's eyes meet for a beat.

He closes his eyes and rubs Simone's hand. Brianna closes the visor and rubs Cream's shoulder.

27 EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

WELCOME TO ATLANTA SIGN.

28 EXT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Cream pulls up in front of a rundown house.

CREAM
Come on, we here.

FREDDIE
We where? Who live here?

CREAM
You, at least until I can put a move together.

FREDDIE

That shit looks trash.

CREAM

Yeah, but it looks better than a cell.

Cream gets out. Freddie gives him a sour look, but he can't argue with Cream's logic.

29 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - DAY

They all enter the house. It's not as bad as it looks on the outside, but it still isn't good.

CREAM

This used to be one of my traps until shit got hot and I had to shut down.

FREDDIE

Ain't no fucking way, B. I ain't living in no crack house. Take me to a motel.

CREAM

And how's that gonna go? Them crackas will peg you for a New York dope boy in a heartbeat.

SIMONE

I can get some kind of place in my name.

FREDDIE

Naw baby, he's right. We gotta stay off the grid. That means no credit cards, no social media.

SIMONE

No credit cards?

FREDDIE

Nothing. That's why we tossed our phones.

Simone looks dejected.

BRIANNA

Don't worry girl, we got your back.

CREAM

Damn right, cuz. I'll get on top of

shit tomorrow, tonight it's time for a little southern hospitality.

He smiles.

30 INT. BLACK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Desi and Marie have their guns aimed at BLACK'S head, as Dante sits in front of him.

BLACK
I remember, damn.

DANTE
And when you came up short on three straight packages, I let you work it off and didn't slaughter your ass, remember that?

BLACK
Yeah man, yeah but I swear I don't know where Freddie is.

DANTE
Come on, Black, y'all from the same hood. That's your mans and them. You telling me you know nothing?

BLACK
Yeah man, I mean, no, no I don't. Dante leans in close to his ear.

DANTE
Then what good are you?

Dante gets up and heads for the door. The murder mommies' cock the Dracos.

BLACK
Tay, wait, wait. Freddie's cousin came up from down south for his engagement party. Maybe he went back with him.

DANTE
Oh, now you know something?

Dante walks off and stops to light a blunt.

BLACK (OS)
No. Look, I told him what he wanted to hear. Please-

We hear the Dracos rip with automatic gunfire.

30A EXT. KOD - NIGHT

The parking lot is packed with cars, the women, the gold grills, and blunts. Cream pulls up in his Cadillac.

30B INT. KOD - NIGHT

Freddie, Cream, Simone and Brianna enter the club. Everyone is giving Cream love. Almost every female that Freddie passes is giving him the eye or whispering about him. Simone doesn't miss a beat.

DUCK

Player mothefucking Player! I know that ain't Freddie Cole!

Freddie looks and sees DUCK approaching. They hug.

FREDDIE

Duck, my mother fucking nigguh! What up?!

DUCK

You, playboy! Goddamn, I ain't seen you in a month of Sundays. How long you here for?

FREDDIE

Not long.

DUCK

Make sure you holla at your boy! Duck walks off.

30C MONTAGE - HOMECOMING AT THE CLUB

- Freddie enjoying the club. - Simone and Brianna laughing while dancing. - The group drinking, while females eye Freddie and dudes grill him.

30D INT. KOD - NIGHT

Freddie and Simone are standing by the bar waiting for their drinks.

TINA

I know that ain't my baby!

Freddie looks up to see TINA, making her approach. Her sultry

sashay carries her right into Freddie's arms. He doesn't want to hug her back because of Simone, so he reluctantly pulls away.

TINA

Oh my god, it is so good to see you, baby!

FREDDIE

Tina Langston, how you?

TINA

All grown up...and out.

SIMONE

How much did it cost?

TINA

Excuse me?

FREDDIE

Simone, this is Tina, an old friend of mine. Tina, this is my fiance' Simone.

TINA

(cattish)

Congratulations.

Simone gives a smug smirk. They size each other up. Freddie sees things are going left.

FREDDIE

Yeah Tina, it was good seeing you.
(to Simone)
Baby you ready?

TINA

She better be.

Tina turns and walks off. Simone watches her walk off.

SIMONE(OS)

Who is she, Freddie?

30E INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Freddie and Simone are laying in bed. Simone is propped up on her elbow.

FREDDIE

She who?

SIMONE
 Boy, don't play with me. You know damn
 well who. TINA.

FREDDIE
 She's nobody.

SIMONE
 I thought you said she was an old
 friend.

FREDDIE
 Who I haven't seem since we were kids.
 A beat.

SIMONE
 Did you do it to her?

FREDDIE
 (CHUCKLES)
 Do it to her? You sound like you in
 elementary school.

Simone sits up.

SIMONE
 Oh, you want the grown up version? Did
 you fuck her? Did you stick your dick
 in her?

FREDDIE
 No. We were kids, Simone.

SIMONE
 Freddie you are so full of shit. He
 pulls her to him.

FREDDIE
 Bae, stop.

SIMONE
 No Freddie, get off me. You I know
 you-

FREDDIE
 Simone, did I do anything tonight to
 warrant distrust?

Simone looks at him.

FREDDIE

Did I?

SIMONE

No, you didn't.

FREDDIE

And I won't. These chicks are going to get at me, just like the dudes are going to get at you. But at the end of the day, it's just me and you and you know, you're all I need.

SIMONE

Freddie, I'm not going to fight for you. That's not fair to me.

FREDDIE

Just fight with me, Queen. They kiss.

FREDDIE

Bada bing?

SIMONE

Bada boom.

She lays on his chest.

SIMONE

She is pretty though.

FREDDIE

You're prettier.

SIMONE

Nope, I'm beautiful. Remember?

31 INT. HOSPITAL - ROOM - DAY

Wilson enters the room where Parks is laying, depressed.

WILSON

Hey beautiful. How are you holding up?

PARKS

Hey.

WILSON

Just saw your mom leaving as I was

coming in.

PARKS

She tell you what the doctors said?

WILSON

Yeah. But it's okay, some physical therapy and you'll be back in no time.

PARKS

They're saying I'll never walk again.

WILSON

There's a whole lotta people out here walking around after being told that. You just gotta have faith.

PARKS

(scoffs)

Faith.

WILSON

I remember the day you were born. Your father and I were on a call when your mom called and said she was in labor. He was driving all the nurses crazy, telling them how to get you outta there safely.

PARKS

(smiles)

Mom told me that story.

WILSON

Before he passed, I promised him that I would always look after you and your sister. I was there for your first steps, I'll be there again for these.

Parks nods her head.

WILSON

As far as the son of a bitch that shot you, I'm taking care of that too. Don't you worry about anything but getting better.

He grabs and rubs her hand.

32 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Cream and Freddie are in the living room examining a ziplock bag of cocaine.

FREDDIE

This is all I get for five bands?

CREAM

I told you it's a drought, cuz. Shit, you lucky we found that. Cream and Freddie look at each other.

FREDDIE

Aight.

33 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Freddie is at the stove cooking up the crack. The kitchen is nice but unfurnished. Simone walks in wearing Freddie's T-shirt, yawning.

SIMONE

Awww, you made me break-

She looks in the pot.

(disappointed)

Freddie.

FREDDIE

Ma, what you expect? You think I want to be back in the trap? I gotta do something.

SIMONE

What about the money you saved? I thought you were going to get your own truck?

FREDDIE

That short shit won't last another month.

Simone rolls her eyes.

FREDDIE

Bae, it won't be long, I promise. I just to need to stack for a good

lawyer, so we can straighten shit out.

SIMONE

But that's just it, Freddie. What if they see you out there hustling?

FREDDIE

They won't.

SIMONE

How can you be so sure?

Freddie can't answer.

SIMONE

Let me do it.

FREDDIE

Do what?

SIMONE

Hustle. I can do it if you teach me and you just have my back.

Freddie is touched by her offer. He hugs her.

FREDDIE

That's why I love you, you my trooper.

SIMONE

Beans out the can together, right? Bada bing?

FREDDIE

Bada boom, but I can't let you do it. I got this, I go US.

Simone reluctantly nods then hugs Freddie. His expression doesn't look confident.

34 MONTAGE - HUSTLE

- Cream and Freddie is serving a CUSTOMER from his car. He hands Freddie a twenty-dollar bill and Freddie gives him coke.

- Freddi and Cream is serving ANOTHER CUSTOMER in the projects. He gives Freddie a fifty-dollar bill. Freddie wraps the bill around his meager knot of money.

- Cream and Freddie is sitting in his car. A FEMALE CUSTOMER

walks and hands him a bunch of crumpled-up bills. Freddie is frustrated by the mess, but takes them and gives her coke. When she walks off, he looks at the crumpled-up twenty, tens, and ones and frustratedly throws them out the window.

34A EXT. ATL RESTAURANT - NIGHT

POV. SOMEONE IS WATCHING FREDDIE AS HE EXITS THE RESTAURANT.

We follow him to the car, then quickly approach Freddie from behind. Just as the person is closing in, Freddie turns and grabs the person by the waist picking them up and sitting her on the hood. It's Tina.

FREDDIE

Really? Keep playing.

TINA

Damn, spidey senses. How you know it was me?

FREDDIE

Chanel no. 5. Plus you still walk loud as hell.

TINA

Shut up, I do not. You used to say I walked like a ballerina.

FREDDIE

A loud ass ballerina. Tina playfully pushes him.

FREDDIE

I'm just kidding, TT.

TINA

You should come over let me fix you something up.

FREDDIE

You know I can't do that.

TINA

Why not? Let me find out you turned into one of those negroes. Yes dear, no dear, can I get my balls out of your purse, dear?

FREDDIE
 (laughs)
 Picture that.

TINA
 Shit, the Freddie I know would be
 trying to get us both in bed, and if
 she wasn't with it, he'd find someone
 who was.

FREDDIE
 Life goes on and people grow out of
 things that fit before.

Tina slides off the hood and puts her arms around Freddie's
 neck.

TINA
 Oh baby trust, it will always
 fit...like a glove. You were my first,
 and I'm determined to make you my
 last.

Freddie kisses her forehead and pulls her arms from around
 his neck.

FREDDIE
 I gotta go.

TINA
 What's she got that I don't?

FREDDIE
 My heart.

TINA
 (laughs)
 Baby, your heart is like a twenty
 story condo, and it ain't got a white
 picket fence.

Tina holds up a single key and slides it in Freddie's pocket.

TINA
 She'll bring you to me when you ready.

FREDDIE
 Who's she?

TINA
 The moon.

Tina grabs his head and kisses his lips, but he doesn't kiss her back. She then walks toward her car and Freddie admires her strut.

*
*
*

35 INT. NJ BAR - NIGHT

Wilson and Jones walk into the bar. They spot Dante, Slug, and the murder mommies' at a table.

WILSON

Dante Mincy, just the man I want to see...

DANTE

Are you here to tell me you caught who killed my brother? Last time I saw you didn't know shit.

WILSON

Why do I get the feeling you may already have that answer. Listen this a be quick, we just want you to look at a few photos.

DANTE

Come on, old-timer, since when you known me to help the police do their job?

WILSON

Humor me.

He nods at Jones, Jones taps his tablet and displays a PICTURE OF BLACK dead in his apartment.

JONES

You recognize him?

Dante ignores the photos.

DANTE

Can't say that I do.

WILSON

You should, he pushes dope for you.

DANTE

I am a legit businessman, fellas. Why would I be around some dope?

WILSON

You about as legit as a politician.

JONES

What about this one?

Jones pulls up another picture of Man Man, dead.

DANTE

(glaring dangerously)

The fuck do you want, cop? Told you, I don't have nothing for you.

WILSON

Let me tell you what we know. We know someone killed Black looking for our Freddie Cole.

DANTE

The hell is Freddie Cole?

WILSON

Oh, you don't know? Freddie Cole is the guy that fucked his wife.

(looks straight at Slug)

Heard you got in a fight with him at a barbershop right before all this went down.

SLUG

Nah.

DANTE

Why do I care about who's dick his wife is sucking?

Slug tries unsuccessfully not to take offense. The murders mummies think it's amusing.

WILSON

Because he's also the guy who slaughtered your brother in the street, like a dog.

Dante grits.

JONES

Freddie Cole and his associate got in a shootout with Man-Man and another guy who witnesses describe a man who looks a lot like you.

(looks at Slug)
 You and Man-Man were like besties,
 right?

SLUG
 I wasn't there. Don't know what you're
 talking about.

DANTE
 Look, if you know who killed my little
 brother, why the fuck are you in my
 face? Yall should be out finding this
 Freddie nigga.

WILSON
 This is your only warning... If one
 more body drops in my city, just
 one... I'm going to lock all of you
 muthafuckas up including these pretty
 little bookends here.
 (winks at the girls)
 And just because it would tickle me...
 I'll frame your ass with every
 unsolved murder in the last two years.

Wilson eyes Dante then walks off. Jones follows.

36 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Freddie walks in carrying the food. Simone comes out of the
 kitchen.

FREDDIE
 You got this piece smelling like Mama
 Mia's.

SIMONE
 I'm making your favorite, fish
 lasagna.

FREDDIE
 Damn, I stopped by that spot you like
 and got your favorite.

SIMONE
 Don't worry, I'll just eat it all.
 Seeing as though I'm eating for two
 now.

FREDDIE
 Well, I'll get the- wait...what?

Simone smiles and nods

FREDDIE
(smiles)
For real?

SIMONE
Seven weeks.

He hugs her tight.

FREDDIE
Man, that's the best news I had in a
while.

SIMONE
You don't think it's bad timing?

FREDDIE
Bad timing? It can never be a bad time
to become a dad.

He kneels and pulls up her shirt above her belly.

FREDDIE
What up lil' man, you already know
what's up. Let's get it.

SIMONE
She's going to be a girl?

FREDDIE
Guess we having two then.

SIMONE
Do not put that in the air.

He kisses her.

FREDDIE
I love you.

SIMONE
I love you too.

FREDDIE
Everything is going to be okay. I'll
find a way to fix all of these and
make it work.

37 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Freddie lays in the bed, gazing upon Simone's sleeping beauty. He caresses her cheek and then rubs her stomach.

FREDDIE

I promise you the world.

Freddie sits up in the bed. He knows what he has to do, but he is a man stuck between the man he wants to be and the man he feels he has to be.

He stands, grabs his phone, takes one last look at Simone, then walks out.

Freddie is sitting on the back porch. He scrolls through his phone until he sees GINA's number. His finger hovers over the "call" button.

INTERCUT:

38 INT. CONDO - BEDROOM - NIGHT

GINA

Nigguh, fuck you! I ain't heard from you in over a month, not knowing if you were hurt, in jail, dead, nothing.

FREDDIE

Ma, Ma, Ma, hold up for a second.

Listen, I'm on the fucking run!

GINA

Duh, Freddie. I saw the news.

FREDDIE

So obviously shit is crazy, so I couldn't call.

GINA

But you can call three o'clock in the goddamn morning. What, you had to wait until your little bitch was asleep?

FREDDIE

You know what? We ain't even gonna do

this. I need to talk to you, so you
gonna listen or not?

A long moment passes

GINA
What?

FREDDIE
Not over the phone. Face to face.

GINA
What time should I expect you?

FREDDIE
Don't play with me, GINA. This is life
or death.

GINA
It damn sure is, because if you keep
playing with my life, I'm gonna be the
death of you.

FREDDIE
You coming or not?

No response.

FREDDIE
You heard me?

GINA
Give me one reason Freddie. One
reason, why I should.

He sighs.

GINA
Just like I thought.

FREDDIE
I need you, G. Please.

A beat. Gina shakes her head.

GINA
Where are you, Freddie?

39 INT. WILSON'S OFFICE - DAY

Wilson and Jones are referencing a large wall map of the country.

WILSON
We know they aren't out west. My guess is they are somewhere down south in one of the Carolinas, Florida or Georgia or even Alabama.

JONES
What makes you so sure?

WILSON
I didn't say I was sure, just a hunch. Have you ever heard of Game Theory, rookie?

JONES
Just about the Prisoners' Dilemma. They teach that in the Academy.

WILSON
Basically, Game Theory is the art of strategic thinking, in this case, the art of deduction. Let me ask you if I told you I was thinking of a number between one and hundred, what are the odds you'd be able to guess it correctly?

JONES
One in a hundred?

WILSON
Needle in the haystack odds, right? But if I told you, I'd give you five shots, each time telling you higher or lower?

JONES
It increases my chances by fifty percent.

WILSON

No, it reduces your chances of being wrong by fifty percent. So if I said it's higher than fifty?

JONES

I'd say seventy-five, halving the remaining numbers of possibilities. Wilson gestures to the map.

WILSON

Now apply that here.

JONES

So, the Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia, or Florida.

WILSON

I think Raleigh, Charlotte, Virginia Orlando or Miami or Atlanta is our spot.

JONES

That's still a wide range.

Beat.

WILSON

I think Virginia is a little too close to home. I think all the beaches and temptations in Florida will make it tough to stay hidden, and South Carolina is full of small towns. He's a sore thumb kind of guy. Atlanta Raleigh or Charlotte are good places to hide in plain sight.

JONES

Game theory, huh?

WILSON

It's just a guess but I could be wrong. Reach out to Raleigh, charlotte Atlanta, GA, counties with a focus on the high drug traffic areas, let's start there. He can't get a job, so he's either selling drugs or robbing the ones who are. A list of his priors says, drug dealer. Tell them we're looking for any new faces on the set. I'll call my old buddy in the Georgia

Bureau of Investigations, and see what he can dig up.

JONES
I'm on it.

Jones walks out. Wilson turns back to the map.

WILSON
Come to papa, Freddie.

ZOOM IN ON THE WORD NORTH CAROLINA AND ATLANTA.

40 INT. FREDDIE CAR # 2 - DAY

Freddie is driving. He calls Cream.

CREAM (OS)
What up, cuz?

41 INTERCUT: INT. CREAM CAR - DAY

FREDDIE (OS)
Where you?

CREAM
On my way to the Jungle.

FREDDIE
If Simone asks, I'm with you.

CREAM
Damn Brah, me and Brianna posed to be going to the movies, and you know she ain't gonna lie for you.

FREDDIE
Don't go then.

CREAM
That's out. She been nagging-

FREDDIE
Nigguh, you want the plug or not?

CREAM
Shit, since you put it that way, fuck a movie. I see you back on your player shit, huh?

FREDDIE

I'm taking one for the team.

CREAM

Whatever helps you sleep at night. I got you, cuz. Handle your biz.

Freddie hangs up. He pulls into the motel parking lot.

42 EXT. MOTEL # 1 - MOMENTS LATER

Freddie parks next to a drop-top Mercedes with Jersey plates. He smiles to himself, then steps to the door. He knocks. Waits. No response. Knocks again. No response. He starts to knock a third time, but GINA opens the door and stands in the doorway.

GINA

What?

FREDDIE

Can I come in?

Gina eyes him coldly, then slowly steps aside. Freddie starts to enter and kiss her, but she turns her head and the kiss lands on her cheek. Freddie smiles.

43 INT. MOTEL # 1 - ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Gina closes the door. Freddie looks at her admiringly.

FREDDIE

Damn you look good, ma.

GINA

You said you wanted to talk. Talk.

FREDDIE

How shit looking back up the way?

GINA

How do you think it's looking? What the hell were you thinking, Freddie?! I told you not-

FREDDIE

What's done is done. I did what I had to do. The cop came out of nowhere.

GINA

Lucky for you, she's going to live.

FREDDIE

Yeah, I saw that online.

GINA

But Man Man didn't, and Dante put
twenty thousand on your head.

FREDDIE

(smirks)

You looking at me like you thinking
about collecting.

GINA

Don't tempt me. And stop trying to
make me smile, I'm still mad at you.

Gina sits down and crosses her legs. He sits on the bed in
front of her.

GINA

You need to be worrying about what
you're going to do. This shit is
serious, Freddie.

FREDDIE

I know. I figure, with a good lawyer,
I can plea out to manslaughter on the
body, but the cop...

GINA

At least she lived.

FREDDIE

Still, that's at least ten years,
maybe more.

GINA

Ten years?

FREDDIE

Shit, I might have to cut my dreads
and-

(West Indian accent)

- run fi the yard.

GINA

That's not a bad idea.

FREDDIE

Either way, I need money.

GINA

And I suppose you want me to give it to you.

FREDDIE

Naw, I just want you to help me make it.

She looks at him. A beat.

GINA

No, Freddie, that's my uncle's business, not mine.

FREDDIE

But you can get it.

GINA

And do what with it, Freddie?

FREDDIE

Bring it to-

GINA

Bring it? Oh, hell no. I can't believe you would ask me to do that. Risk my life, my freedom. You don't care about me, Freddie.

Freddie kneels in front of her, embracing her and the chair, closing the space between them and creating a supplication of intimacy.

FREDDIE

Yes, I do.

GINA

No, the fuck you don't.

FREDDIE

Gee, I wouldn't ask if I wasn't in a fucked up situation. This is life or death. What else you expect me to do?

GINA

Keep your dick in your pants. Let's not forget that's what got you in this situation in the first damn place.

Gina stands up and goes into the bathroom and slams the door. Freddie follows her, looking at himself in the mirror.

FREDDIE

Come on baby, I need you, I swear I do. I know my shit is raggedy, but I can beat this thing. I just need you to come through for me.

A long silence. The toilet flushes, and the door opens.

GINA

I'll get it, but let Simone come pick it up.

FREDDIE

Are you crazy? The police looking for her, too.

Gina sighs hard and goes to the mirror's sink. She washes her hands. Freddie embraces her from behind.

FREDDIE

I need you, G. Just a few runs, enough to stack my escape plan.

She's looking at her reflection.

GINA

What is wrong with me? I'm a smart, sexy, beautiful, and vivacious Black Woman. I have my own business, I take care of my own shit. So why do I put up with this bullshit when I know you don't love me?

FREDDIE

How can you say that?

Gina turns to look at him.

GINA

Then say it. Tell me you love me, Freddie.

FREDDIE

I love you.

A beat as she stares into his eyes.

GINA

I don't believe you.

FREDDIE
I love you, Gina.

Freddie kisses her.

44 MONTAGE - HUSTLE

- Ext. Motel - day - Gina pulls up in the motel parking lot. Freddie is waiting for her. They kiss and Gina hands him the keys. Freddie looks in the trunk and there is a duffle bag inside.

- Int. Cream's House - day - Freddie hands the duffle bag to Cream in Cream's living room. Cream opens it. Inside are 5 kilos of cocaine. They dap.

- Ext. Trap street - day - The trap spot is busy with customers going in and out. Tina comes out with a book bag. She gives the book bag to Freddie in a parking lot. He looks inside and sees it is filled with money. He smiles and she eyes him flirtatiously, then turns to walk off. Freddie slaps her on the ass as she struts off. *

- Ext. Car Dealer - Freddie Purchases a car all cash. Gets the keys

- Int. Trap House - day. A money counter is going full blast as Freddie and Takes rubber band up the stacks of money. Tina comes out of the bathroom in her bra and panties while Freddie stacks the money on the bed. Tina takes the stacks and tosses them in the air as she pulls Freddie on top of her and money rains on them both, kissing. *

- Int. Freddie's House - day Freddie has his hands over Simone's eyes as he walks her out of the apartment. He removes his hands to reveal a her new car. She jumps in his arms kissing him all over his face.

- Int. Freddie's House - day Simone is in the living room, dancing with Freddie. Her stomach is showing.

- Int. Motel - day - Gina and Freddie exchange bags product for money. This time they kiss before parting. *

- Int. KOD - night - Freddie and Cream enter the club. Men are showing Freddie love. Cream wears a jealous smile. *

45 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Freddie gives Simone a .380 gun.

SIMONE

A gun?

FREDDIE

You never know, baby, this game is crazy. Keep it with you at all times, don't hesitate.

She nods and puts the gun in her purse.

46 INT. KOD - NIGHT

Cream and Freddie enter the strip club.

The females flock to Freddie as he makes it rain. Cream is looking on with jealousy in his eyes.

A STRIPPER give Freddie a lap dance. Tina comes over and whispers something in the stripper's ear. The stripper instantly raises up and hurries off. *

Tina then proceeds to give Freddie a lap dance while tonguing him down. *

47 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

SIMONE IS SITTING ON THE BED, PUTTING LOTION ON HER STOMACH.

47A EXT. TINA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT *

Freddie is sitting outside of TINA's house. He looks at the single key in his hand. He looks up at the full moon above TINA's house. He smiles, gets out the car, then let's himself in TINA's house with the key. *
*
*

48 INT. WILSON'S OFFICE - DAY

Wilson is at his desk typing on his computer. Jones walks in.

JONES

Word back from GA, nothing. No one knew pushing any drugs, no new stick-up kids, no Freddie Cole.

WILSON

Just be patient, he'll slip and we will catch him.

Jones sits down at the desk

JONES
How's Officer Parks doing?

WILSON
She's good. She starts PT next week,
they're letting her body rest and heal
right now.

JONES
Good. Glad she's doing alright.

Wilson continues to type.

49 INT. GINA'S - DAY

Door bell rings.

Gina opens the door to Dante' standing there. Dante pushes
his way in.

GINA
What the fuck are you doing at my
house.

DANTE
Went to your boutique, and they said
you was home already. I think you know
why I'm here.

GINA
I don't read minds, nigga.

DANTE
You know Man-Man got killed, right?

GINA
Yeah, I heard. I'm sorry for your
loss.

DANTE
Freddie killed him, and muhfuckas in
the streets is saying you fuck with
that bitch ass niggah. So since I fuck
with your uncle, I figured I'd give
you the benefit of the doubt and pull
up, see what's good.

GINA
First off, you work for my uncle,
don't get that twisted. And second, I
know you ain't come to my place

talking about what niggas in the streets is babbling about.

DANTE

Where's Freddie?

GINA

Listen, Dante, if I was fucking with Freddie or whoever you talking about, that's none of your business or them niggas in your ear. And if my Uncle knew you were coming at me like this, you'd have a real ass problem.

DANTE

Is that right?

GINA

But I'm a big girl, and I don't scare easy, so I'm not going to tell him... this time. Now get your ass out of my house.

DANTE

GINA, GINA, GINA, you can't save Martin this time, girl. And if I find out you fucking with that clown and ain't tell me, not even your uncle is going to be able to save you.

He stares dangerously at her. She returns the stare.

GINA

Try me, Dante, and we'll see who will need to be saved.

He looks her up and down then makes his exit.

50 INT. CREAM APARTMENT - DAY

Brianna answers the door to find Freddie standing there. He looks at her cut-off jeans and tank top and raises his eyebrows.

FREDDIE

Where- where cuz?

BRIANNA

He went out to the country.

FREDDIE
Tell him I'll come back.

BRIANNA
Boy, come on in, you family.

Brianna walks away, leaving the door open as she heads into the kitchen. Freddie reluctantly steps inside and closes the door.

FREDDIE
I'm just going to leave the money on
the coffee table.

BRIANNA (OS)
Freddie, come here. I want you to
taste this.

Freddie is hesitant, but heads to the kitchen.

51 INT. CREAM APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

Freddie enters. Brianna is at the stove, stirring the pot. She ladles out a spoonful.

BRIANNA
Here, taste.

Freddie steps forward and allows her to spoon-feed him the sample.

BRIANNA
Too salty?

FREDDIE
Naw, that shit banging.

BRIANNA
I'm trying to make my grandma
spaghetti sauce from scratch. She was
a beast.

FREDDIE
(nervous)
Yeah well, I'm just going to leave
this money right here.

BRIANNA
Freddie, I know why you acting all
nervous. I know what you're thinking.

FREDDIE

I ain't thinking shit.

BRIANNA

Yes you are, because I'm thinking the same thing. We're thinking about how much we both love Cream.

FREDDIE

He like a brother to me.

BRIANNA

Well since we met, I found out how much I truly love him.

FREDDIE

That's good.

BRIANNA

I see how you look at me when nobody's looking.

FREDDIE

Brianna.

BRIANNA

And to be honest, I be checking for you the same way.

FREDDIE

We can't-

BRIANNA

That's exactly what I'm telling you. I find you attractive, but I know what I have at home, and I respect my man. I'm just saying, I need us on the same page because I ain't perfect and you damn sure ain't perfect.

FREDDIE

(relieved)

Say less, I get it and I respect that. We on the same page.

Brianna gives him a subtly lingering kiss on the cheek.

BRIANNA

Thank you.

Brianna goes back to the stove as Freddie gets a bottle of

water out of the refrigerator. A beat. The front door opens. Cream quickly enters the kitchen and looks at both of them.

CREAM

What's up, cuz?

They dap and hug. Freddie points to the money on the table.

FREDDIE

I just came by to drop off that dough.

CREAM

Shit, let's put it on Madden so I can flip my shit.

FREDDIE

Next time, I gotta get to the crib.
Freddie gives him dap and walks out.

Brianna stares after Freddie for a second.

52 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Simone is laying in bed, her pregnancy is now showing as Freddie paints her toenails. *

SIMONE

It feels like you're painting my toes
and not my toenails.

FREDDIE

Just lay back and relax, I know what
I'm doing over here.

SIMONE

Yeah, I hope so. You lucky I can
barely see my feet. They laugh.

Simone comes to a realization.

SIMONE

Bae, I've been thinking.

FREDDIE

Uh-oh, I knew I smelt smoke.

Simone smiles then it dwindles quickly.

SIMONE

What's going to happen when the baby
is born? Like at the hospital and we

have to give our names and stuff. Do you think they can find us like that?

FREDDIE

Maybe. We'll just have to use the fake IDs or something.

SIMONE

Freddie, we can't put fake names on the birth certificate.

FREDDIE

I'll figure something out.

Simone ponders the situation.

SIMONE

Freddie, we can't keep living like this. This isn't a life to have a family in.

FREDDIE

Just let me stack a little more paper, then we can get out of the country, start over, and live off the grid.

SIMONE

But the way you spend money, new cars, new clothes every week, jewelry...we should be saving it.

Freddie moves to the side of the bed and kisses the top of her head.

FREDDIE

We'll be okay.

SIMONE

You keep saying that.

FREDDIE

Babe, I promise. Just a little bit longer.

Simone looks skeptical as he goes back to her toes.

53 INT. HAIR SALON - DAY

Brianna is doing Simone's hair.

*

BRIANNA

Simone!

Simone snaps back.

SIMONE

Huh?

BRIANNA

Girl, you okay? I called you like ten times.

SIMONE

No no, I was just...thinking.

BRIANNA

Well, if it's about baby names, Brianna is perfect for a baby girl.

SIMONE

(chuckles)

I'll keep that in mind.

BRIANNA

I was saying, I love your shoes. Balenziaga?

SIMONE

Yes, Freddie bought them.

BRIANNA

He must not know the old saying.

SIMONE

What old saying?

BRIANNA

Never buy a woman shoes, she'll walk away from you in them. They laugh.

TINA walks in. She sees Simone in the chair, she sucks her teeth and rolls her eyes. The salon is pretty busy with a few women waiting.

TINA

Damn Bri, my appointment ain't no good?

BRIANNA

I'll be through in a minute. TINA looks around and smirks. Shit, the

bitch in the chair already through. *

A few women snicker. *

SIMONE *

Excuse me? *

BRIANNA *

Simone, don't even. *

TINA *

I said, the bitch in the chair is
already through. You heard me that
time? *

SIMONE *

Wow...you are so beat. *

BRIANNA *

Simone, let it go. *

SIMONE *

No Bri, I tried to be nice, polite,
but every time I see this sad ass
bitch, she got something to say.
What's wrong with you? You wanna be me
that bad? You want my life? My drip?
My man? *

Brianna closes her eyes, and shakes her head. *

TINA *

Your man? Bitch if I'm sad, you sad
and dumb. That ain't your man, that's
our man. *

SIMONE *

You ain't gotta lie to kick it, ho. *

TINA *

Oh, you ain't know? Ki, she don't
know? *

BRIANNA *

TINA, JUST GO. *

TINA *

No, she need to know me. Let me
introduce myself, sweetheart. I'm
TINA. Im not the side bitch or the *

other bitch Im the bitch before you.
 Freddie and I have been fucking around
 since high school.

BRIANNA

TINA!

TINA

You want to know where he at when he
 ain't home? Up in this pussy.

(beat)

You think you the only bitch pregnant
 by Freddie? Nope.

Simone breaks. She tries to lunge out of the chair, but
 Brianna holds her back. TINA gets in a fighting stance.

TINA

Naw Bri, let her go. I'ma beat the
 baby out her ass.

BRIANNA

TINA, get the fuck out my shop.

TINA smiles at Simone. Simone stares at her being as strong
 as she can. TINA starts backing towards the door.

TINA

Tell our baby daddy to call me.

TINA walks out. Simone burst into tears. The other ladies in
 the shop shake their heads at her.

BRIANNA

Simone, I'm so sorry you had to find
 out like this.

Brianna attempts to touch Simone, but Simone snatches away.

SIMONE

You knew?

Brianna drops her head. Simone hurries out of the door.
 Brianna fills with guilt.

54 INT. SIMONE'S CAR - DAY

Simone is driving. She breaks hard and pulls over. She
 punches the stirring wheel a few times, then falls into a

relentless sob.

55 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Simone burst through the door just as Freddie is coming out of the kitchen eating a sandwich.

FREDDIE

Hey, ba-

SMACK!

Simone slaps the shit out of Freddie, catching him off guard. She continues to punch him. He blocks as best as he can.

FREDDIE

Yo! What the fuck?

SIMONE

You're a fucking piece of shit! I hate you!

FREDDIE

What the fuck is wrong with you?

Freddie is struggling to contain Simone's fury. He grabs her by the arms.

FREDDIE

What the fuck is your problem?

SIMONE

(snatches away)
How could you, Freddie?

Freddie swallows hard. He's trying to figure out what dirt she knows.

FREDDIE

Could I what?

SIMONE

Tina!

FREDDIE

What? Who told you some bullshit?

SIMONE

All you do is fucking lie. Who is Gina, Freddie?

Freddie sees how broken she is, and it is truly hurting him to see her like this.

FREDDIE

She's nobody. She just works for me.

SIMONE

Just for once, be a fucking man and tell the truth.

FREDDIE

I mean...one time...I...I had been drinking and you ain't been wanting to do it, you know, wit the baby and all-

SIMONE

Don't you dare try and put this on me. Tell me the truth, Freddie!

FREDDIE

Yeah, Simone, goddamn. I fucked her, okay? Is that what you wanted to hear? Does that make you feel better? Huh?

SIMONE

Is she pregnant?

Freddie is quiet. His face drops. His eyes go from her eyes to the floor. His expression confirms it. Simone is crushed. She stumbles back.

SIMONE

You're a bitch.

FREDDIE

A bitch? I'm out here taking the risks, ducking the police, the stick-up kids just so you can drive your nice car and wear them jewels you love so much.

SIMONE

I never asked for any of that shit.

FREDDIE

But you ain't complain either. You ain't give it back. You enjoy the life just like I do. So it's okay if I sell drugs, shoot niggahs and kill kids and shit, "just don't fuck no other bitch Freddie. Just don't fuck nobody else."

Fuck kind of shit is that, Simone?

SIMONE

You asked me to be your wife, Freddie.
Your wife! "I just want to be with
you, Simone." What happened to that?
You begged me to come, and I gave up
my whole fucking life for you,
Freddie.

FREDDIE

And I love you for it. What I do in
the streets don't matter.

SIMONE

I ain't talk to my mother in months. I
gave up school and my career, and you
doing whatever the fuck you want.

FREDDIE

Pussy ain't shit. I done fucked
hundreds of bitches, so what? You got
my heart, Simone. I swear baby, no
other woman compares to you. You're my
moon, my air, I can't breathe without
you.

SIMONE

I'm carrying this baby for you, and
you went and got this bitch pregnant
too?!

FREDDIE

Simone.

SIMONE

I can't right now, I just can't.

Simone walks away.

56 INT. MOTEL - DAY

56A INT. TINA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Freddie is pissed as he waits on Tina. Tina enters the house.
Freddie approaches her as she comes in. She stands and
Freddie grabs her by the throat. She pushes his hand off her
neck.

FREDDIE

Fuck wrong with you running your mouth

*
*
*
*
*
*

all reckless and shit, like we still
kids.

TINA

She brought that smoke to me, so I
gave her what her hand called for. You
need to stop lying to that girl,
Freddie. What makes her so fucking
special?

FREDDIE

You knew what the fuck it was, Tina! I
told you to leave her alone and stay
away from her.

TINA

I didn't nut in myself and get me
pregnant, Freddie. She had to find out
sooner or later anyway.

FREDDIE

Play your goddamn position Tina, or
I'll find a rack of bitches that will.
Clear?

TINA

I play mine, just make sure she play
hers. She may be wifey at home, but in
these streets...it's me.

FREDDIE

Not anymore. Were done, since you want
to fuck up what I got going on. Now
leave her the fuck alone. She can't
have all this stress, Tina, she's
pregnant.

TINA

I'm fucking pregnant too, Freddie.
Everything isn't about your bitch.

FREDDIE

Seem like it to me, since yo ass can't
stay out her face.

Freddie heads for the door.

TINA

Where are you going?

FREDDIE

You didn't just hear me? We are done.

TINA

We're done, Freddie.

FREDDIE

We still working, but everything else with us is over. I'll hit you in a few days to go to your appointment with you. Till then, I'll be with Simone.

Tina watches as he walks out the door.

57 EXT. TRAP HOUSE - DAY

Freddie and Cream are sitting outside, just hanging out.

Freddie gets a text from a woman. He shows Cream.

CREAM

Yo, what are you doing to these women?

FREDDIE

I just give them what they need. Women just want to feel special, even if it's just a little bit for a short time. Feelings are like drugs, man, they carry you from high to high to high.

CREAM

Yeah till them sweet feelings start turing into rage. Then she bussing your windows and stabbing your tires.

FREDDIE

Comes with the game.

CREAM

You say you really love Simone, you don't feel no type of way, fucking around on her?

FREDDIE

I do love Simone. With all my heart, but I also just love black women. It's a different type of love. People act like you can't have two loves, you

can. You can love steak and you can love lobster. It's no difference.

CREAM

Food and feelings are not the same.

FREDDIE

But it is as simple as that to me. I love black women. That's it. But within that, no other black woman will have be above Simone.It's her, then it's them. But I love them both.

CREAM

Whatever you say, nigga. Let's get the rest of this off so I can check on Brianna.

58 INT. CREAM APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Brianna is napping on the couch. Cream comes into the house. He walks up and kisses her forehead, then her shoulder. He lifts her shirt and kisses her stomach.

BRIANNA

Freddie, stop.

CREAM

Freddie? The fuck!

Brianna's eyes pop open.

CREAM

The fuck you say? You said Freddie?

BRIANNA

Baby.

CREAM

Freddie!

BRIANNA

That was an accident, it doesn't mean anything.

CREAM

Don't fucking play with me.

BRIANNA

Cream, it's not what you think.

CREAM

Why did you say his name? You fucking Freddie?

BRIANNA

No, baby. I would never do that to you.

CREAM

Nah, you are. I can't believe this shit.

Cream gets up and storms out the door.

BRIANNA

Cream! I'm not, I swear!

The door slams.

59 EXT. TRAP HOUSE - DAY

Freddie and THREE DUDES are working out on the pull-up bar, bare-chested. Each is trying to outdo the others. Freddie up on the bars.

FREDDIE

I can do this all day, B, you country niggahs can't fuck with me.

Cream pulls up. He gets out and approaches Freddie.

CREAM

Ayo, let me holla at you.

FREDDIE

What up, cuz?

They step to the side.

CREAM

What up with you, Bruh?

FREDDIE

What you mean, what up with what?

CREAM

Didn't I show love when you needed me most? When your back was against the wall?

FREDDIE

No doubt.

CREAM

But yet and still, you try and play me. Nigguh, I made you.

FREDDIE

Whoa whoa whoa, hold up. Made me? I don't know where this is coming from, but you ain't made shit. If anything, I made you. Without me, you'd still be nickel and diming ass nigga, sticking up white boys on ball courts. Don't play yourself.

CREAM

It ain't enough for you want to run my city, but Brianna too?

FREDDIE

Brianna? What the hell she tell you?

CREAM

She didn't tell me shit, you just did.

FREDDIE

Yo cuz, stay in your lane. Before you check me, you need to check your bit-

Cream punches Freddie in the mouth, staggering him, but Freddie comes back with a vicious two-piece. The two get in a few more blows before the dudes break up the fight.

DUDE 1

Y'all chill. Y'all blood. Family.

CREAM

Fuck off me! We was family. You was more than a cousin to me, you was like my brother. Now you ain't shit to me.

Freddie is hurt by Cream's words. They both walk off in opposite directions.

60 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Freddie is sitting on the couch, drinking Hennessy from the bottle, watching TV. He is distraught. Simone comes out of the bedroom and grabs her car keys. She sees the bruise on Freddie's face.

SIMONE
What happened to your face, Freddie?

FREDDIE
Life.

Simone grabs water from the kitchen. Freddie stands and meets her.

FREDDIE
How's the baby doing?

SIMONE
The baby is fine.

FREDDIE
How are you doing?

SIMONE
I'm good.

FREDDIE
Why don't you go out shopping or something? I know we need stuff for the baby.

SIMONE
You need stuff for your other baby, you mean.

FREDDIE
Stop it, Simone, I can't change what happened. You can't stay mad at me forever.

A beat.

SIMONE
The fact you got this girl pregnant and I can't fucking leave because you pulled me in some bullshit running from the cops...means I can.

FREDDIE
OK, damn. I want us to go back to being us. I miss you.

He starts to kiss her neck.

SIMONE
You have a condom?

*

FREDDIE

For real?

SIMONE

Go over there to her, clearly, she
don't make you wear one.

Simone heads out the back to the room.

61 INT. CREAM APARTMENT - DAY

Cream leans on the wall as Brianna sits on the couch, crying.

BRIANNA

We never did anything, nothing. Never
had sex, never kissed, nothing like
that. I swear on my mamma's life, I
never had sex with Freddie. I wouldn't
do that to you, to us. I love you!

CREAM

So you calling out his name-

BRIANNA

It was just a dream. I was half-sleep,
I don't know it. It didn't mean
anything I swear.

CREAM

So you dream about fucking him. Which
means you want to.

BRIANNA

That's not true. I don't know what
else to say. I'm so sorry, Cream.

Cream walks away. Brianna continues to cry.

Cream!

62 INT. WILSON OFFICE - DAY

Wilson is at his desk when Jones sticks his head in the door.

JONES

We still on for lunch?

WILSON

I've got something better on my plate.

JONES

What's up?

WILSON

My guy in Atlanta just called and said a dealer just got busted with some of the purest cocaine that city saw.

JONES

Out-of-towners?

WILSON

I'm betting it's our out-of-towners.

JONES

I mean, I know you think he's down there, but it could be anybody? What makes you think it's him?

WILSON

Call it a hunch.

JONES

How about we call it lunch. I'm starving.

WILSON

I know just the place.

63 INT. JAMAICAN RESTAURANT - LATER

Wilson and Jones walk in. Wilson greets the cashier in his West Indian dialect.

JONES

I didn't know you were from Jamaica.

WILSON

Order what you want. I'll be right back?

(accent)

Where's Jacques?

The cashier inclines their head towards the Kitchen/back.

64 INT. JAMAICAN RESTAURANT - SMALL OFFICE- DAY

Wilson knocks. JACQUES (60) suave, he's watching soccer on a large screen TV.

JACQUES

Come in.

Wilson enters.

JACQUES

You're just in time. We're winning.
Wilson sits.

WILSON

Who are we playing?

JACQUES

The losing team.

They start a conversation in their West Indian dialect.

WILSON

I have a problem.

JACQUES

What are old friends for?

WILSON

You have reneged on our arrangement.

JACQUES

Eh?

WILSON

Your product has turned up in Atlanta.

JACQUES

How do you know it's mine?

WILSON

Because it bears the stamp of Saint
Michael.

Jacques nods and confirms it's his.

WILSON

(in English)

I let you operate in my city, not
because you are a friend, but because
you bring a certain order to the city.
I can count on you to keep the savages
in line, but this time, it's personal.
A cop was shot a family member and the
man you are supplying did it.

JACQUES

Is that the favor? Consider it done.

Wilson stands.

WILSON

I don't suppose I could trouble you
for an address?

JACQUES

You know me better than that.

Wilson smiles and then walks out. *

64A INT. TINA'S APARTMENT - DAY *

Tina is in her bra and panties, walking a woman out. *

WOMAN *

Call me when yall want to play again. *

TINA *

Definitely. *

She walks back to the bedroom where Freddie is laying in bed
on his stomach. Tina lays on top of him. *

TINA *

I'm sorry that I told Simone that I
was pregnant. *

FREDDIE *

No you're not. *

TINA *

(smiles) *

Okay I'm not, but I am sorry for how
it happened. You know that I don't
like you to be mad at me. *

FREDDIE *

Oh yeah? *

TINA *

Yeah. I was mad because she really
does have your heart and I dont know
why. *

He turns over and she lays on his stomach. *

FREDDIE

I can't explain it. I can't seem to
let you go either of you go, so you
tell me.

TINA

I don't know what she does to you but
I know why you can't let me go.

FREDDIE

Really? Why?

TINA

Want me to call that girl back in
here?

FREDDIE

I think I can manage you by myself
right now.

He rolls over on top of her.

65 INT. GINA'S - NIGHT

Gina opens the door and Jacques walks in. He gives her a warm
hug.

JACQUES

How is my favorite niece?

GINA

I'm your only niece.

JACQUES

Semantics.

They share a laugh.

GINA

Are you okay, uncle? You want
something to drink?

JACQUES

No, I'm okay. I'm not staying.

GINA

So it's not a social visit, is it?

JACQUES

Tell me, how long do you think our
arrangement will last?

GINA
His money spends too, no?

JACQUES
Oui, but I'm not doing it for the money, I'm doing it for you. He is no good for you, but this is something you must learn for yourself.

GINA
Uncle Jac-

JACQUES
I'm not trying to lecture you.

GINA
We can't help who we love.

JACQUES
Oui, but does he love you?

GINA can't answer. She drops her head. Jacques lifts it gently with his palm.

JACQUES
(dialect)
How can a man not love such beauty?
(in English)
I have just purchased an estate in Jamaica, to oversee my rum operation. Do you know how to make rum?

GINA
No.

JACQUES
Then you need to learn, that is if you want it as a wedding present. GINA's face lights up.

GINA
Thank you, Uncle J!

JACQUES
He won't have to worry about the police because I own them. It will be a clean start, but he can only go as your husband. Either way, he is cut off.

GINA
Cut off? But Uncle Jac-

JACQUES
Please GINA, you know I hate to tell you no, so don't press. My decision is final. You may not be able to make him choose, but I can. A new life or certain death.

GINA
Then I will make him see. He has to.

GINA hugs Jacques, but it is clear he isn't convinced.

66 INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

Simone is putting groceries in her basket. She pushes the cart to the checkout counter. THE SUPERMARKET CASHIER is ringing up her groceries.

CASHIER
That'll be 74.59.

Simone pulls out her money. She only has three twenties.

SIMONE
Shit.

CASHIER
Is there a problem?

SIMONE
No no, I'm just...

She goes into her purse and pulls out a credit card.

67 EXT. SUPERMARKET PARKING LOT - DAY

Simone is walking towards her car. She stops abruptly. It just hit her.

FLASHBACK:

Cashier swiping card.

SIMONE
Fuck!

Simone glances around subtly. She spots a camera on the light pole. She gets in the car, but when she pulls off, she drives

in reverse all the way around the store.

68 INT. SIMONE CAR - DAY

Simone is driving while on phone. It's ringing.

SIMONE

Come on Freddie, pick up.

FREDDIE VOICE MAIL (OS)

This me.. Leave it.

SIMONE

Freddie, call me asap. I...I think I messed up.

Simone hangs up and begins to text.

69 INT. MOTEL ROOM # 1 - DAY

Freddie and GINA are kissing passionately as they lay naked in bed. *

FREDDIE *

Damn you taste good. You making me hungry. You want to go get something to eat? *

GINA *

No baby, I'm good. *

FREDDIE *

You sure? You didn't have any problems on the trip, did you? *

GINA *

No no, it's just- *

FREDDIE *

You know what? Let's order from one of those Caribbean restaurant I know a good one. You wit it? *

GINA *

Why can't we go out to a restaurant? I only sit in this motel when I come down here. *

FREDDIE *

You know why we can't go out. *

GINA
I bet you take Simone out.

FREDDIE
You want food or no? Beat.

GINA
Freddie, I need to talk to you.

FREDDIE
Okay?

GINA
Baby, how long do you expect this to go on? I mean, I can't-

FREDDIE
Don't worry ma, just a few more drops and we good. I promise.

GINA
(stammering)
I... there won't be any more drops, Freddie. It's my uncle. We have to chill.

FREDDIE
Chill? For how long?

GINA
It's over, Freddie. He says he's cutting you off.

FREDDIE
Cutting me off?! For what? Is it the prices? Fuck it, charge me extra. You gotta talk to him.

GINA
I tried, baby. His no is no.

Freddie gets up and puts on his clothes.

FREDDIE
What the fuck am I supposed to do? I live off this shit.

GINA
What about all the money you've made? I thought you were supposed to be stacking for an escape plan, remember?

FREDDIE

A hundred racks ain't shit. I need a few more.

GINA

Listen, I've got some money saved, enough to get away, start over. My uncle even said he'd give us his rum business in Jamaica. We won't have to want for anything.

FREDDIE

(chuckles)

Damn G, you slipping. I expected more from you.

GINA

What does that mean?

FREDDIE

You had all this planned, didn't you? Put me on, string me along and then cut me off, so me and you could run off together. Wow, what a web, huh?

GINA

I just want what's best for you, Freddie.

FREDDIE

You actually thought I'd leave Simone...for you?! Bitch, ain't a woman on this earth I'd leave Simone for, especially not you.

GINA

(crying)

Freddie, don't do this.

FREDDIE

You did it to yourself. You cutting me off? Naw bitch, you cut off.

Freddie grabs his phone and turns for the door. Gina jumps up and grabs him.

GINA

If you leave me, I'll kill you.

Freddie backslaps her to the floor.

FREDDIE

Dog ass bitch, go find another bone to lick.

Gina jumps up and swings at Freddie non-stop. He blocks the best he can. He wraps her up and squeezes her tight. *

FREDDIE *

Bitch, I will kill you in here, calm the fuck down. *

Freddie flings her to the bed and walks out, leaving Gina pissed and crying. She pulls herself together. *

GINA *

(nodding)

Okay. Okay. I told you not to play with me. Okay. *

She stands and walks to the window, watching him pull off in his car. *

70 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Simone is sitting on the couch in a panic. Freddie walks into the house. Simone stands up.

SIMONE

Where have you been? I called and texted you a bunch of times.

FREDDIE

I'm sorry, You good? You feel contractions or something?

SIMONE

No, I'm fine and the baby is fine.

FREDDIE

Ok, so what's so important?

SIMONE

I... I used the credit card.

FREDDIE

You what?

SIMONE

I know, I wasn't thinking.

FREDDIE

Shit! This changes everything.

SIMONE

I'm sorry. I just wasn't thinking for a second. I didn't have enough cash and it was like second nature, I don't know. I'm sorry.

FREDDIE

Hey hey hey. We good ok. I'm going to figure something out. Don't stress. I love you, okay. We good. I love you, okay. We good.

He holds her and kisses her forehead to reassure her that it's ok. He doesn't look sure.

71 INT. WILSON'S CAR - DAY

Wilson is driving as Jones sits biting his nails on the passenger side.

JONES

Are you sure the Captain is good with us going all the way down to Atlanta for this dude?

Wilson looks out the window and ignores the question.

WILSON

Simone used her credit card at a store in Atlanta yesterday morning. We got

'em, Jones. It's our bust and we aren't letting some piece of shit who nearly killed a cop, get away because of jurisdiction.

Jones looks at Wilson and shakes his head.

JONES

So the Captain doesn't know?

WILSON

You're still a newbie detective, you'll learn pretty fast what it takes to be a real homicide detective out here.

Wilson continues to drive.

72 INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

Wilson and Jones approach MIKE (30 BLACK STORE MANAGER). They shook hands. Wilson and Jones flash their badges.

WILSON

I'm Detective Wilson and this is Detective Jones. We called earlier.

MIKE

Right, from New Jersey. Wow, that was quick.

WILSON

We're investigating a murder and one of our suspects used a credit card in this store.

He holds up pictures of Freddie and Simone.

WILSON

Either one look familiar?

MIKE

Her, I'd definitely remember, but not him. Maybe one of my cashiers will though.

JONES

We're more interested in your surveillance footage.

MIKE

Sure, whatever you need.

73 INT. POOL ROOM - NIGHT

Cream is shooting pool. He is about to take a shot when he looks up and sees GINA strutting toward him. She approaches Cream and stops in front of him, provocatively close.

GINA

Cream?

CREAM

Is that a statement or a question?

GINA

I know you but you don't know me. I'm the plug.

CREAM
Is that right?

GINA
That's exactly right and this is your
lucky day.lucky day.

CREAM
And why is that?

GINA
Because I'm ready to do business with
you directly and I'll give it to you
for the same price I gave Freddie.
Twenty a key.

CREAM
Wow, he said you were charging twenty-
five.

GINA
I guess he was playing us both.

CREAM
Both?

GINA
You ever been in love, Cream?

CREAM
Either that or she put a root on me.

GINA
Be good to her baby, because it really
is a thin line.

CREAM
So what's the catch?

GINA
I want you to kidnap Simone.

CREAM
Do what?

GINA
For a hundred thousand. Every dime
Freddie's got.

CREAM
And what the fuck makes you think I'd

do some cruddy shit like that?

GINA

You just told me he charged you more for the work. Plus he told me why you punched him in the face. You really think that all they was doing was smiling at each other? You know the type of person Freddie is. punched him in the face. You really think that all they was doing was smiling at each other? You know the type of person Freddie is.

Cream flexes his jaw and looks away.

GINA

Plus, you get dibs on me as the plug. Besides, if you don't, then I'll get someone who will, and they might not keep her ass alive.

CREAM

Simone is an innocent bystander in all this, and she's about to pop in a few weeks. You want to hurt this woman and her child, and she's in the same fucked up situation you are with this nigga?

GINA

She is the only person he gives a fuck about. I need him to feel like I do.

CREAM

Seems like you've got it all figured out.

GINA

All except the ending. That part's up to you. You do whatever with her afterward. Do we have a deal?

A beat. Gina pulls Cream's phone from his pocket and hands it to him. Cream unlocks the phone and Gina puts her number in it.

GINA

Call me when your balls drop.

He watches her walk away from him.

74 INT. DANTE APARTMENT - NIGHT

Dante is home counting money. He receives a text from Gina.

GINA (TEXT): FREDDIE'S IN ATLANTA. COLLEGE PARK

Dante smiles and continues to count.

75 INT. WILSON'S CAR - DAY

Jones is driving. Wilson is in the passenger seat. They are riding through the hood, eyes peeled, heads on a swivel.

JONES

Who are we looking for again?

WILSON

We'll know him when we see him.

JONES

We have no jurisdiction down here, how much can we do really?

WILSON

A badge is a badge. With all the paperwork, southern procrastination, and interstate bullshit, this Freddie guy may be long gone. We gotta strike now.

JONES

The Captain is going to hang our asses.

WILSON

I'm more of the ask for "forgiveness before permission type." If we turn up anything then we'll check in with the locals.

Wilson spots SLIM (20) pulling up in a convenience store parking lot in a tricked-out SUV.

WILSON

I think we just found our man.

They pull into the store.

76 EXT. CORNER STORE - DAY

They pull into the parking lot and wait for Slim to exit.

They snatch him and pull him around the side of the building.

77 INT. DANTE'S CAR - DAY

Dante is driving by with Slug the murder mommies in the car. They see Wilson and Jones harassing Slim.

DANTE

Hey, ain't them those cops that's investigating who killed my brother and shot that cop?

DESI

Yeah it is.

MARIE

The fuck they doing down here?

DANTE

Same thing we are, looking for Freddie's ass. We need to get to him before they do.

78 EXT. CORNER STORE - DAY

Jones has his badge to Slim's face.

SLIM

Man, that shit say New Jersey. I ain't never even been outta Georgia. Get the fuck outta here.

Slim starts to walk away. Wilson pulls Slim back, punches him in the stomach and puts his gun under Slim's chin.

Jones rushes to stop Wilson.

JONES

Hey, hey, hey...

Wilson gives Jones a look and Jones backs up.

WILSON

We are looking for Freddie Cole. And don't tell me you don't know him because we know that you're pushing his weight.

SLIM

I don't know him like that. Never even met him before.

JONES

Listen, we don't want you. We want Cole. What can you tell us?

SLIM

I swear I don't know him.

WILSON

What do you know?

SLIM

Nothing. He's cousins with this nigga name, Cream

WILSON

We don't give a fuck about a Cream. Where is Freddie Cole?

SLIM

Like you said, I'm just a corner boy. They the plugs, why would they tell me anything.

WILSON

Stop fucking playing with me. You know more.

JONES

You hear shit around the hood. The area he live in, where he hangs out, what girl he's bangin.

Slim hesitates.

WILSON

Spit it out.

SLIM

KOD Atlanta.

WILSON

What's KOD?

SLIM

King of Diamonds. It's a strip club all the ballers be in. He be there a few days out the week.

Wilson tucks his gun then proceeds to search Slim. He pulls out some cash from Slim's pocket and pushes him.

SLIM
You just gone take my money like that.

WILSON
Get the fuck outta here.

SLIM
Bitch ass cops.

Slim flips the bird and walks away.

Wilson watches Slim clear the building then pins Jones against the wall.

WILSON
Listen here, rookie. You better learn who's back you got out here because things can get dark real quick. In order to be a good cop, sometimes you gotta get just a little bit dirty. You understand?

Jones affirms he understands. Wilson releases him.

WILSON
Now let's go check in with the locals just in case we need backup.

79 INT. DANTE'S CAR - DAY

Dante watches the cops let Slim go.

DANTE
Get him, I need to know what he knows.

Desi and Marie get out.

80 INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Slim is tied to a chair.

DANTE
King of Diamonds, huh? Good.

He taps Slim's face twice.

SLIM
You gone let me go now, right?

DANTE
Nigga you just snitched to the police.

Why would I let you go so you can run
and snitch on me.

SLIM

It's not like that, I swear to God.

DANTE

You should probably be praying to God
instead of swearing to him. Get you a
last prayer in real quick before you
meet him.

Dante nods to the ladies and they step up.

SLIM

Please. I'm not gonna say nothing.
Please. No.

The ladies fires into Slim's chest.

81 INT. CREAM APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Cream is nervous. He shakes his head several times and then
makes a call.

CREAM

Hey, I need you for a job.

82 INT. VAN - NIGHT

J DOG(25, gold grill) sits in a van with a GOON. They pull
the ski masks over their face.

83 EXT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

J Dog and the Goon kick in the door, guns drawn. Simone
screams. Goon grabs her. Slow-motion, Simone fights back and
inadvertently knees him in the nuts. He folds.

Simone takes off running for the back. Simone runs straight
for her purse that's on the bed. She manages to grab the
purse, but J Dog snatches her away and with one punch knocks
her cold. The J Dog carries Simone out.

84 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Freddie pulls up to the apartment and sees that the door has
been kicked in. He rushes in.

FREDDIE

Simone!

Freddie sees the signs of the struggle. His phone rings, it's Simone.

SIMONE (OS)
(crying)
Freddie, help me, please.

85 INTERCUT INT. VAN - NIGHT

Simone is in the back of the van. J Dog is in her face. He snatches the phone from her.

J DOG
I know I don't have to tell you who that is, so you already know what this is.

FREDDIE
J-dog. You Bitch ass niggah, you a dead man!

J DOG
Now do you really want to threaten me when I got this pretty little pregnant bitch of yours, or do you want to listen?

FREDDIE
Just tell me what do you want?

J DOG
A hundred racks, one hour, old lot off Elm. One minute late equals one dead bitch. Understood?

FREDDIE
If you touch her, I swear to fucking God-

J DOG
I already touched her dumbass. I got her. Now bring me my money.

He hangs up. Freddie throws the phone at the couch. Freddie screams.

FREDDIE
Fuck, fuck, fuck!

He paces on the verge of panic. He retrieves his phone impatiently waiting for the person to pick it up...

FREDDIE
Come on Cream, pick up. Shit!

He gets voicemail.

FREDDIE
You cuz I need you. Somebody took Simone, they kidnapped her! I don't know what I would do if something happened to Simone and my baby!

CREAM IS LISTENING TO THE VOICEMAIL.

FREDDIE (O.S.)
Whatever you think went on between me and Brianna never happened! We family! I could never do you like that. Please Cream I need your help cuz. Call me back!

CLOSE UP GINA IS LOOKING AT A TEXT THAT READS: IT'S DONE. SHE SMILES.

86 INT. CREAM'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Cream lowers his phone after sending the text. He is standing in the door way watching Brianna sleep. He walks out.

87 EXT. PARKING LOT # 2 - NIGHT

Freddie is in his car. Across the parking lot is the van. He gets out with the duffle bag. J Dog and Goon get out with Simone. Goon points his gun at Freddie as he walks up to him and snatches the bag from his hands. He back up and gives the bag to J Dog. He opens it and nods. J DOG lets Simone go.

She runs to Freddie. He hugs her, but she doesn't hug him back. He helps her back to the car.

88 INT. FREDDIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Simone is in the bathroom looking at herself in the mirror. Freddie is in the kitchen, making a call.

FREDDIE
Yo cuz, I know shit fucked up between us right now, but some fuck shit just went down and I need you.

Simone walks in rolling a suitcase. Freddie hangs up.

FREDDIE

Baby, where you going?

SIMONE

Home.

FREDDIE

You are home.

SIMONE

This was never home, Freddie.

FREDDIE

Baby, I know what happened tonight-

SIMONE

I'm done, Freddie. I'm done. I'll face whatever I have to, but I can't keep living like this. I can't bring my child into this bullshit.

FREDDIE

You're right ma, we have to get away, just not back to Jersey. Let's just go out west, you know? Just me and you. We'll have the baby...no more bullshit no nothing, okay?

SIMONE

So you can do the same thing again? Create another baby with another woman, have me kidnapped by another dude? So I can lay in another bed in another strange place, and have my baby listen to your lies and broken promises? I can't do it, Freddie, I'm tired.

FREDDIE

Please, baby, don't say that? I know I fucked up, but I can change, I will, I swear. Just don't take your love from me, 'cause that's all I got.

SIMONE

Freddie, look at me! I have nothing left for you! It's over. I don't love you anymore.

She places her engagement ring on the counter.

Freddie looks at the ring and looks back at her. He's crushed. Simone walks away.

89 MONTAGE - BROKEN

Int. Cream car - cream checks his gun.

- Int. Gina's Hotel - night - She loads a gun.

- Int. Motel 2 - night - Dante and his crew are in the motel room loading their guns.

- Int. Car - night - Wilson and Jones are on their way to Dazzle's.

- Ext. Freddie's House - night - Simone gets in an Uber. -

Int. Car - night - Dante and crew in the car on their way to the club.

90 EXT. KOD - NIGHT

Freddie pulls up in the parking lot of KOD nightclub. The parking lot is packed with people and cars. Freddie is greeted by several people. KAKES walks up to him and puts her arms around his neck for a hug.

KAKES

Hey baby, I know you getting a few dances tonight.

FREDDIE

Maybe. I really came to chill tonight. Clear my head, get my mind right.

KAKES

I can help you with that, you know that.

FREDDIE

I know. Hey, can you pull my car around to the back? I don't want to deal with the craziness trying to get outta here tonight.

KAKES

Sure, baby.

He hands her the keys and she pulls off in the car.

91 MONTAGE - BROKEN

- Int. KOD - night - Freddie enters the club. He snatches up ONE FEMALE who was talking to another dude and walks her off. He grabs a SECOND FEMALE and walks with a chick under each of his arms.

- Int. KOD - night - Cream arrives at the club.

_ Gina walks into the club.

- Int. Uber - night - Simone stares out the window and rubs her stomach in the back of the Uber.

- Ext. KOD - night - Wilson and Jones pull up to the club.

92 INT. KOD - NIGHT

Tina is walking with a bottle of champagne in her hand. She passes Slug who watches her pass and his eyes follow her ass. *

Tina walks towards Freddie and his two chicks in his section. She looks at the chicks with a crazy smile and cocks her head to the side. *

TINA *

Cheer up baby, here.

His eyes are watery, but he isn't breaking down.

FREDDIE

It's over, Kakes. She's gone for real.

TINA *

You'll be alright, you just need a few days with Kakes.

She kneels down in front of him.

93 INT. KOD - NIGHT

Wilson and Jones are in the club. Gina walks past security without being searched.

Freddie and Tina are sitting in the section.

Dante spots Freddie. He signals Slug and the girls.

Cream sees Desi pull out her gun and cock it.

Wilson sees Marie hand Dante a gun from her breast.

WILSON

It's Dante. Call local PD for backup.

Jones looks over to Dante. Dante and his crew, Wilson and Jones, and Gina all have guns and they are all headed towards Freddie.

94 INT. KOD - NIGHT

Back to Freddie and Tina are in the section. *

TINA *

You need a real ride or die chick,
baby. That's me, so just sit back and
let me take care of you.

Tina goes down and begins to give Freddie head. Freddie lays his head back on the couch. He looks up he can't believe his eyes... *

Two shots, one hits his chest the other his arm.

WILSON

Freeze

The club goes crazy, with people running everywhere. Jones sees Dante with his gun out.

JONES

Drop the gun!

Dante spins and aims at Wilson. Jones fires.

Desi aims for Jones but Wilson puts three in her chest.

Police move in. Marie is firing wildly as she runs for the back door. She opens it and two cops are waiting.

COP ONE

Freeze!

Marie raises her gun and gets riddled with bullets. Slug is running. Wilson steps in his path.

WILSON

Don't be stupid.

Slug drops the gun and puts up his hands.

Simone is standing still as the crowd runs a muck around her. She stares at Freddie for a second then follows Tina with her *

gun as Kakes scurries under a table.

FLASHBACK:

95 INT. UBER - NIGHT

The Uber stops at a red light across the street from the club. Simone looks and spots Freddie getting out of what used to be her car. She watches him hug Kakes, gives her the car keys, and gets in the car.

96 EXT. KOD - NIGHT

The uber pulls off and Simone is standing there with her suitcase, her eyes focused on the club. She walks towards the club.

97 INT. KOD - NIGHT

Simone pushes the suitcase to the side of the building and walks in. She looks around and moves forward. She spots Freddie at the booth. She doesn't see Tina yet. She moves closer to him and she sees Kakes servicing him. Simone pulls out her chrome .380.

*

BACK TO SCENE:

Cream approaches and then gently takes the gun. She looks at him.

CREAM

Go.

Simone stares at him.

CREAM

Go.

She turns and blends in with the crowd heading out.

98 EXT. KOD - NIGHT

Gina exits the club through the back door. She turns around, hoping to see Freddie running out.

A beat.

Simone comes out. GINA and SIMONE see each other. Simone sees the gun in Gina's hand. They have a conversation with only their eyes. Simone looks down at Gina's gun and then back into her eyes. Gina's eyes filled with tears.

She leans on the car behind her. Simone walks off, disappearing into the crowd. Gina tucks the gun and walks away.

99 EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Gina pulls up to a dark area. Cream is already there sitting in his car. He gets out with the duffel bag and walks up to Gina's window.

GINA
Is he dead?

CREAM
Does it matter? You got what you wanted.

Cream hands the bag with a gloved hand. Gina unzips the bag and sees it is filled with clothes.

GINA
Wait!

Cream shoots her in the chest. She is gasping for air, blood gushing. She feebly reaches for her gun.

CREAM
I'll never cross family.

Cream shoots her in the head, blows her brains all over the windshield, and walks away.

100 INT. HOSPITAL - ROOM - DAY

Wilson pushes Parks down the hall in a wheelchair. He turns around and stops. He helps Parks stand and walk.

101 INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

We follow a letter pass by jail cells into one. Freddie sits down and opens the letter. *

Freddie looks at the picture of his son, smiling. He kisses it, then puts it on his wall next to the picture of Tina holding their son. There is also a picture of Tina and Freddie in a prison visitation picture. *

102 INT. VISITATION ROOM - DAY

Freddie sits at a table with Mom. *

FREDDIE

Hey, ma. How's everything?

MOM

Good. How are you doing? You look good.

FREDDIE

Considering, yeah. You hear from Simone? How's my baby? *

MOM

Simone wants nothing to do with you, Freddie. When you gone get that? *

Freddie is hurt. *

FREDDIE

I don't know if it's a girl or boy. She can't just keep the baby away like that. *

MOM

She can do whatever she wants. You in here, what can you do? I always told you that you would end up just like your father. He was killed because he couldn't keep his dick in his pants, and now look at you. You almost fell right into his shoe prints. Some woman who's name you probably don't even remember, almost took you from this earth. When are you gonna learn, son? *

Freddie looks away. *

FREDDIE

Come on, ma. Im good. *

MOM

You're in prison, Freddie. You're in prison and both of your babies are being raised without a father. You don't know a thing about the one you have with Simone, that doesn't sound good to me. *

Freddie looks at her. *

FREDDIE

I am who I am, mom. That's not going

to change.

MOM

Yeah well, hopefully, these next twenty years will help you realize that you need to.

She gets up from the table.

MOM

Cream said she had a girl. He checks in with Simone from time to time, so she has some family around.

FREDDIE

What's her name.

MOM

I don't know, a girl is the only info he gave me.

FREDDIE

Im sorry ma'. Sorry you're being punished for things I did.

MOM

Sorry is in the action, son, not the saying.

103 INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

Freddie lays on his bunk staring at the ceiling.

FEMALE OFFICER

Cole.

Freddie looks up. FEMALE OFFICER (30 attractive BLACK WOMAN), stands at his cell door.

FEMALE OFFICER

Cell search.

A beat then she cracks a flirtatious smile.

Freddie looks at the camera and smiles.

THE END.