

# JIMMY PACHECO

A BLACK COMEDY

by

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## CREDIT SEQUENCE.

1 EXT. TORONTO.

Opening Super-8 footage of an Ethnic Italian/Spanish neighborhood, circa 1970.

1A 13 year old Jesse Aikman and his 11 year old girlfriend Beth Bailey are necking in some weeds near a railway track.

1B His 11 year old brother James sits off in the weeds, being a lookout, and sneaking peeks when he can.

1C A noise startles James. He panics for a second and then realizes it is Jesse who has thrown a few stones just behind where he is sitting.

1D Jesse and Beth laugh. Jesse pulls out an old Brownie camera and takes James's picture.

1E A succession of snapshots ensues: Jesse standing on James's back like a big game hunter; Beth posing like Jane Russell in the weeds; James looking bored; Beth hugging James as he looks embarrassed; and finally, a snapshot of Jesse and Beth locked in a passionate kiss.

1F We hold on this picture and slowly pull back to reveal the same photo (faded and torn) taped to the dashboard of Jesse's beat up car. it is present day, same ethnic neighborhood.

2 EXT. NIGHT

Older Jesse and James Aikman sit in the parked car, in front of a typical downtown rowhouse. They listen to a talk radio program.

V.O. HOST

We're back on "Love Beat". Goodmorning to our listeners just tuning in. I'm your host, Dave Richards, and we've been talking with bisexual, transsexual, height-challenged, man/woman person, Miranda Lilly.

(CONTINUED)

MIRANDA

You can say "midget". I don't care.

HOST

Midget then. Okay. Before the break you were saying you've slept with as many people as there are in the State of Delaware. And our staff is trying to get a figure on that as we speak, but my question to you is, "Of those thousands of people, how many did you experience with anything that resembles love?"

MIRANDA

Oh, two maybe. I guess. You know, the heart was made to be broken. I truly believe that. And so I try to protect myself as best I can, by not revealing my inner pond.

HOST

That's understandable. But you're ultimately short-changing yourself in terms of any long-term emotional stability.

MIRANDA

Oh blow me. That is such a crock.

HOST

Okay Miranda, you've laid down the gauntlet. Let's take some calls and find out if you've touched a nerve. The number to call is 555-4031. "Gloria", you're on the air.

GLORIA

Thank you hon. Multi-time caller.

HOST

Good for you.

GLORIA

You know Dave, I'm going to have to side with my kindred sister...or brother....or whatever you are Miranda, because I agree. There is no such

(CONTINUED)

thing as long-term emotional stability.  
There is long-term oral sex, which I  
feel is a better substitute.

HOST

You speak from experience then.

GLORIA

Thank God for Viagra. That's all I  
have to say.

Car clock says 8:30 am. Through the windshield we  
see Jimmy Pacheco emerge from his home, followed by  
his wife Beth, and their infant son, Eduardo. He  
kisses them goodbye, walks to the Aikman's car, and  
gets in. He is wearing a baby diaper as a bandage  
on his head.

JAMES

Morning.

JIMMY PACHECO

Morning.

JAMES

How'd you sleep?

JIMMY PACHECO

Okay. I snore, so Beth wakes me up a  
lot. How are you guys?

JAMES

Tired. We were up all night again.  
You know.

Jesse starts the car.

JESSE

(TO JAMES) Aren't you forgetting  
something?

JAMES

Oh shit, yeah. Sorry Jesse.

Jimmy Pacheco reaches his hands over the front seat  
James ties them together with a piece of rope. He  
then reaches under his seat and pulls out a  
halloween mask of President Clinton, with the eyes  
taped over, and puts it on Jimmy Pacheco's head.  
They drive off.

CUT TO:

3 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Aldo the barber and his wife Gloria are setting up for the day. Gloria comes over to Aldo and kisses him.

GLORIA

Morning hon.

Aldo gives her the cold shoulder.

GLORIA

Now what's the matter?

ALDO

Gloria, you never said if I was good last night.

GLORIA

Awwww come on Aldo. You're never good.

They both laugh.

CUT TO:

4 INT. HIDEOUT.

Two days earlier. It is 8:30 am. The door of a storage locker bursts open. Jesse and James drag Jimmy Pacheco into the room. The room is empty, except for 3 chairs and a small card table. A bare light bulb hangs from the ceiling. The ceiling is abnormally low. Jesse and James take off halloween masks of Nixon and Reagan. They sit Jimmy Pacheco in a chair and try to tie him up. Jimmy Pacheco is wearing a Clinton mask.

JESSE

Where's the rope?

JAMES

I don't know.

JESSE

You were supposed to get the rope.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

No I wasn't.

JESSE

You fucking asshole. I asked you to get the rope. I asked you twice.

JAMES

I'm sorry.

JESSE

You never listen to me. You're in your own fucking little world, and you never listen to me.

JAMES

I'll go get some rope right now, okay?

JESSE

The hardware store is closed today. I told you that too, but you didn't hear me about that either, did you?

JAMES

No.

JESSE

What are we going to use to tie him up?

JAMES

(Thinks) We can use our ties. Gimme your tie.

JESSE

It's my Michael Jordan tie. I don't want you to ruin my Michael Jordan tie.

JAMES

I won't.

JESSE

(Pause) Well, you're just going to have to buy me a new tie, that's all.

JAMES

Okay.

(CONTINUED)

They take off their ties and tie up their prisoner.

JESSE

What else did you forget?

JAMES

Nothing.

James starts to cry.

JAMES

I wanted this to go so smoothly, you know?

JESSE

I know.

CUT TO:

5 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Gloria is reading Tarot cards and speaks directly to camera.

GLORIA

I tell ya hon, there are a lot of powerful loves out there. Love between a mother and son, a father and daughter, sexual partners. But the most powerful love of all is the love between two brothers. Hold on. That can't be right. (Pause) Two brothers who are also sexual partners.

CUT TO:

6 INT. THE HIDEOUT, TWO HOURS LATER.

Jesse, James, and a still masked and unconscious Jimmy Pacheco sit by the table, waiting for the phone to ring.

JESSE

How long has it been?

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

Two hours.

JESSE

And you left the ransom note at Jimmy Pacheco's parents' house like I told you?

JAMES

Yeah.

JESSE

Well I don't understand what the problem is.

JAMES

How come we didn't leave a note for.....

JESSE

Because I didn't want to upset her right off the bat. Okay?

JAMES

Okay.

Phone rings. Jesse picks up.

JESSE

(INTO PHONE) Yeah.....That's right. We left the note.....Yeah, it's the right number..... No, it's not a joke.....It's not meant to be funny.....I'm not gonna tell you who we are... I told you it's not a.....Look, we have your son. He's right.....You wanna talk to him? Fine. Hold on. (To James) Put him on.

JAMES

He's still out.

JESSE

You had to use a fucking bat, didn't you?

(CONTINUED)



JAMES

I'm sorry.

JESSE

(INTO PHONE) He can't talk right now.....BECAUSE HE CAN'T.....You'll just have to take my word for it.....FUCK YOU! (HE SLAMS THE PHONE DOWN) FUCKING ASSHOLE!

Jesse rips the phone out of the wall.

JESSE

(TO JAMES) They think it's a big FUCKING JOKE. Now what do we do?

Pause.

JAMES

I don't know.

CUT TO:

7 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Gloria again reads Tarot cards and speaks directly to camera.

GLORIA

If you love someone, set them free.  
Free. Free. Set them free.

CUT TO:

8 INT. HIDEOUT. AN HOUR LATER. 11 AM.

James is writing at the table. Jesse is pacing.

JESSE

You done?

JAMES

Yeah.

JESSE

Gimme the list.

James hands Jesse a list.

(CONTINUED)

JESSE

This is just Jimmy Pacheco's friends and family.

JAMES

Yeah.

JESSE

How are we supposed to know what to demand from them?

JAMES

I made another list of our demands.

He hands Jesse the other list.

JESSE

This is stupid. You got a list of all the people we want stuff from, and you got a list of all the stuff we want, but how are we supposed to match them up?

JAMES

It's a logic game. I thought it'd be kinda fun.

JESSE

We've kidnapped a man. We're going to extort money and things from his friends. This is not FUN!

JAMES

Okay.

JESSE

Do you at least have an idea of what goes with whom?

JAMES

Sort of.

JESSE

Let's start with the Silvas. What do we want from them?

CUT TO:

9 INT. ALDO'S BARBER SHOP.

Joe and Diane Silva sit in chairs beside each other. They speak directly to camera.

JOE SILVA

We're the only house on the block with a double garage, but I had to sell the second corvette to pay for Diane's throat surgery.

Diane nods. Pause.

JOE SILVA

Jesus, I loved that car.

CUT TO:

10 INT. HIDEOUT. BACK IN PRESENT TIME.

JAMES

We wanted parking space. And I thought we could pay them a buck a month.

CUT TO:

10A C.U. JESSE.

JESSE

Hold on. You don't give money to people you're extorting from. That's crazy.

JAMES

No it's not. If people know the Silvas are only getting a buck a month, then it looks like they're stupid, and bad business people, and it will bring great shame on the House of Silva.

JESSE

Great shame huh? (He laughs.) Okay. Next. Jimmy Pacheco's parents.

JAMES

(Thinking) Pass. (Off Jesse's look.) We'll come back to them.

(CONTINUED)

JESSE  
 Jimmy Pacheco's sister, Carmen.

CUT TO:

11 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Jimmy Pacheco's sister Carmen sits in a chair and speaks directly to camera.

CARMEN  
 Yesterday I found out I wasn't pregnant, so I went out and got drunk, and now I might be pregnant again. Life is such an endless cycle that way.

CUT TO:

12 INT. HIDEOUT. PRESENT TIME.

JAMES  
 Ummmm.....Her satellite dish. The pizza-sized one. Not one of those big fuckers.

JESSE  
 (Looking at lists) Okay. Wait a minute. You got "satellite dish". And then further down you got "satellite monthly fee and hookup"?

JAMES  
That's Pacheco's parents. They pay for Carmen's monthly fees.

CUT TO:

13 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Al and Monica Pacheco sit in chairs beside each other. They speak directly to camera.

AL PACHECO  
 We agreed to help our daughter out with her payments if she agreed to go back to school.

MONICA PACHECO  
 She went back to school.

(CONTINUED)

AL PACHECO

Beautician School doesn't count. Look where it's got her. She works at Mister Turkey for Christ Sake.

CUT TO:

14 INT. HIDEOUT. PRESENT TIME.

JESSE

That's weird.

JAMES

I know.

JESSE

What else we got here?..... "a wheel of parmesan once a month." Who goes with that?

JAMES

Lynne, the alcoholic in the red brick house with no grass on the lawn.

CUT TO:

15 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Lynne sits in a chair and speaks directly to camera.

LYNNE

Lawns are a guy thing. I haven't met a guy yet whose cock didn't get stiff at the length of his grass. So I just don't give a shit.

CUT TO:

16 INT. HIDEOUT. PRESENT TIME.

JESSE

Oh right. She drives me nuts. She's been in that house for thirty five years and she's never laid down any sod. Her lawn is just dirt. I mean, come on.

JAMES

Oh I know. She has no sense of community.

(CONTINUED)

Jimmy Pacheco starts to wake up.

JAMES  
Hey. Jimmy Pacheco is waking up.

JESSE  
Quick! Put our masks on!

They put their masks on.

JAMES  
You got my mask on.

JESSE  
What difference does it make?

JAMES  
I picked it out.

JESSE  
Jesus Christ! Here!

Jesse rips his mask off and throws it at James.  
James takes his mask off and hands it to Jesse.

JESSE  
Happy now?

Jimmy Pacheco moans. He wakes up. He is still tied up and has a Clinton mask on.

JIMMY PACHECO  
What the hell are you guys doing?  
(Laughs) Did Carmen put you up to this? This is a joke, right?

Long silence.

JIMMY PACHECO  
Guys. Listen. Whatever it is you want, I'm sure my family will just give it to you. All you gotta do is ask them.

JESSE  
It's too late now. We've come too far.  
(LOOKS AT JAMES) Some of us anyways.

(CONTINUED)

JIMMY PACHECO

Look. I beg you. Please let me go.  
You're making a big mistake.

JESSE

Shut up!

JIMMY PACHECO

You can't kidnap me. I have a wife  
and child at home. They need me.

Pause.

JESSE

You married Beth Bailey.

JIMMY PACHECO

Yeah. How do you know that?

JAMES

She was in my math class.

JESSE

KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!

JAMES

What'd I say?

JESSE

You just gave him a clue as to who we  
are James!

JAMES

So did you. You just called me James.

JESSE

NO MORE TALKING! TIMEOUT!

CUT TO:

17 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP. THE SAME DAY. 2:30 PM.

Aldo is cutting local gangster, Joey  
Villa's hair. Gloria is watching "All  
My Children" on a black and white  
television in the corner, and laying  
out her Tarot cards.

(CONTINUED)

ALDO

So, did you hear about Jimmy Pacheco?

JOEY

I just heard he was kidnapped earlier this morning. Has anything else happened to him?

ALDO

No.

JOEY

Oh. Okay. I thought I missed something.

ALDO

No. I mean, it's horrible he's been kidnapped.

JOEY

Oh yeah. Especially for Beth.

ALDO

I don't think she knows yet.

GLORIA

I warned her something bad would happen. I saw it in her cards. Didn't I Aldo?

ALDO

Just like you saw Mother Theresa's face in Joe Silva's bald spot.

GLORIA

That was Mother Theresa's face. I could tell by the wart.

ALDO

Of course it was.

GLORIA

It was Mother Theresa's face!

ALDO

Of course it was! (to Joey) What did I just say? (to Gloria) Of course it was!

(CONTINUED)



(to Joey) Is she hearing me? (to Gloria) I'm agreeing with you! Of course it was!

GLORIA  
It was Mother Theresa's face!

ALDO  
Of course it was!

CUT TO:

18 INT. HIDEOUT.

Three and a half hours later. (6 pm) Jesse and James have their masks off.

JESSE  
SHUT UP JIMMY PACHECO! YOU DON'T HAVE A SAY IN THIS. SO SHUT THE FUCK UP!  
(PAUSE) Okay. Look. We can't. Okay? It's done. OKAY? We're here.

JAMES  
Yeah, but his parents thought we were joking. Maybe this isn't such a good idea.

JIMMY PACHECO  
My parents what?

JESSE  
They laughed at us. OKAY?

JIMMY PACHECO  
There must be some mistake.

JESSE  
Are you calling me a LIAR?

JIMMY PACHECO  
No. Not at all. I just don't understand why they did that.

JAMES  
Maybe they just don't like you.

(CONTINUED)

JESSE

WHO THE FUCK CARES? The point is, we're gonna fix the situation with these lists, and they're gonna take us seriously. And until then, Jimmy Pacheco is staying put. (To James) Get the polaroid.

James gets a polaroid camera.

JESSE

This'll show them we're serious.

JIMMY PACHECO

How are they going to know it's me?

JAMES

Hey, he's right. He's got the Clinton mask on, with the eyes taped shut.

JESSE

I KNOW HE'S GOT THE CLINTON MASK ON!  
Let me think about this.

JIMMY PACHECO

Are you guys wearing masks?

JAMES

No, but we got 'em with us.

JIMMY PACHECO

What if you guys put your masks on, and I take mine off?

JESSE

I am getting REALLY PISSED OFF.

JAMES

No, Jesse. It'll work. That way his parents can identify him, and he can't see who we are.

JESSE

But now he knows BOTH our names, you idiot.

JAMES

(STARTS TO CRY) I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

JESSE

Just put your goddamned mask on and  
take the fucking picture. I'll get  
him.

Jesse and James put their masks on. Jesse then  
takes off Jimmy Pacheco's mask. The polaroid  
flashes.

CUT TO:

19 EXT. PAYPHONE.

Jesse calls Beth. She answers. Jesse still wears  
his mask.

BETH

Hello?

JESSE

Mrs. Pacheco?

BETH

Hello?

JESSE

Beth? It's me.

BETH

Who is this? I can't understand you.

JESSE

It's me.

BETH

Jimmy Pacheco, is that you? Where the  
hell are you? I called the plant, they  
said you never showed up for work.

JESSE

(takes his mask off)

No, no.....

BETH

I'm worried sick, I'm thinking, did you  
get in an accident, did you get lost,  
did you miss the exit ramp again? My  
God, if anything happened to you, what  
would I do? What would I do?

(CONTINUED)

Jesse is silent.

BETH

Hello? Helo?

Jesse hangs up slowly. Thinking.

CUT TO:

20 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Gloria reads her tarot cards and speaks to camera.

GLORIA

If a man pursues a woman it's infatuation. If he gets a response, it's love. If he's rejected, it's obsession. If he continues to pursue her, it's stalking. And if he sits in prison thinking about her, it's infatuation again. I'd hate to be a man. It's too confusing.

CUT TO:

21 INT. NIGHT. (10 PM)

Jimmy Pacheco's home. Beth and Jimmy Pacheco are in mid-argument. And it's a doozy. Beth is throwing pots and lids at Jimmy Pacheco in their kitchen. Eduardo is in a crib in the livingroom.

BETH

You don't REMEMBER? Maybe you have lost your mind. I asked you if you missed the exit ramp, and you hung up on me!

JIMMY PACHECO

That wasn't me.

BETH

I talked to you this afternoon! DON'T LIE TO ME!

(CONTINUED)

JIMMY PACHECO  
I never called you! I was tied to a  
chair!

BETH  
Are you fucking around on me? HUH? Is  
this what this is about?

JIMMY PACHECO  
NO! I would never fuck around on you!

Jimmy Pacheco peeks out the window to see if he's  
being watched.

BETH  
IS SHE OUT THERE? HUH? YOUR LITTLE  
WHORE?

JIMMY PACHECO  
Beth, I WAS KIDNAPPED! OKAY? You have  
to believe me!

BETH  
I don't have to do anything, you  
MOTHERFUCKING ASSHOLE!

Eduardo starts to cry.

BETH  
Now look what you've done.

JIMMY PACHECO  
I'll get his pacifier. Where's his  
pacifier?

BETH  
You live here. Look for it. Jesus  
Christ. You're gone all day and you  
forget where everything is?

Jimmy Pacheco finds a pacifier on a table and gives  
it to Eduardo.

JIMMY PACHECO  
Found it.

Pause.

(CONTINUED)

BETH

So if this is true, what are you doing here? Did you escape? DID YOU ESCAPE?

JIMMY PACHECO

They're letting me come home in the evenings. They're kidnapping me again tomorrow morning.

He puts Eduardo in crib. Beth slaps him on the head.

JIMMY PACHECO

OW! Honey, it's not my fault! I begged them to let me go. I really did. These people mean business! I was scared for my life. I was scared for you. And Eduardo. Believe me. This was the best way to calm them down.

BETH

(Deep in thought) Who the hell.....Why would they kidnap you?

JIMMY PACHECO

They want stuff.

BETH

What stuff? We're not millionaires! We don't live like kings! What do they want?

JIMMY PACHECO

Things we have. My family has. Things from our neighbors. I don't know really. I don't know. It's all really vague.

BETH

We have to go to the police. This has to stop.

JIMMY PACHECO

No. No police! They said they'd kill you and Eduardo. Or maybe it was just you. Oh Christ! I can't remember. I think they said they'd just kill you. They'd just kill you.

(CONTINUED)

BETH

I'm not happy Jimmy Pacheco.

JIMMY PACHECO

Beth, I will handle it. Either my family will come through, or I'll reason with these guys.... maybe I can talk to my dad...Whatever. I will handle it.

BETH

You never told me about those rags on your head. What the hell did they do?

JIMMY PACHECO

They hit me with a bat. There was some blood, and they wrapped my head in some old shirts.

BETH

It's filthy. You could get infected.

JIMMY PACHECO

I'm alright.

BETH

Oh don't play the brave dumb macho man. It's disgusting. I'll change the dressing.

JIMMY PACHECO

We're out of towels. I forgot to do the laundry.

BETH

Oh, that's great! We have no clean rags or towels.

JIMMY PACHECO

Look. If you wanna change the dressing so bad, use this.

He grabs a baby diaper.

BETH

You can't wear a diaper on your head.

JIMMY PACHECO

DO YOU WANT TO DO THIS OR NOT?!!

(CONTINUED)

BETH  
 DON'T SNAP AT ME! I'm trying to help  
 you, you jerk!

Pause. Beth takes off the rags and puts the diaper  
 around his head and tapes it down.

BETH  
 (Pause. She looks at crib) Eduardo's  
 asleep. (Pause) Your dinner's in the  
 oven. I'm going to bed.

Beth starts to leave.

JIMMY PACHECO  
 Beth. I love you.

BETH  
 Hmmm. Me too.

Beth exits. Jimmy Pacheco curls up into a ball.  
 Fade to black.

CUT TO:

22 EXT. NIGHT. A CAR.

Jesse sits watching Jimmy Pacheco's house. James is  
 asleep. They both are wearing their masks. Car  
 clock reads 4:18 am.

JAMES  
 (Waking up) Is he still in there?

JESSE  
 Yeah.

JAMES  
 Can we go home now? I don't think he's  
 gonna sneak out if he hasn't already by  
 now.

JESSE  
 Oh that's real smart. We kidnap a guy,  
 let him go home, and TRUST that he's  
 gonna come back to us? Use your head.

JAMES  
 I'm sorry.

Pause. Jesse takes out two handguns from a plastic  
 bag.

(CONTINUED)



JAMES  
Where'd you get the guns?

JESSE  
Value Village. (Off James's look.) I got  
'em from an old pal from Kingston,  
okay?

Pause.

JAMES  
Jesse? Can we take our masks off?  
Nobody's around, and I'm gettin' hot in  
here.

JESSE  
We take 'em off when I say we take 'em  
off.

Pause.

JESSE  
Okay. Take 'em off. (PAUSE) Can you  
grab the thermos? I need a coffee.

JAMES  
Where is it?

JESSE  
Under the seat in the back.

James looks for it.

JAMES  
No it's not.

JESSE  
What?

JAMES  
It's not under the seat.

JESSE  
Where is it?

JAMES  
I don't know.

JESSE  
You were supposed to put it under the  
seat.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

I didn't know that.

JESSE

I said three times before we left tonight. Fill the thermos. Put it under the seat in the back.

JAMES

I didn't hear you. I'm sorry.

JESSE

I think you don't hear me on purpose.

JAMES

(Starts to cry) No.

JESSE

So you can watch me get worked up into such a state that I go ballistic. You must take some sort of sadistic pleasure in that, huh?

JAMES

No.

JESSE

You got me so worked up, I'm tempted to walk into Jimmy Pacheco's house right now, and blow him and his WHOLE FUCKING FAMILY AWAY!

JAMES

You wouldn't hurt Beth and the baby, would you? I know you wouldn't.

JESSE

Just get out of my sight. I need to cool down. Go home. Just go home.

JAMES

I can go get some coffees if you like.

Pause. Silence.

JAMES

I'll go get some coffees. Okay? Jesse, what's the matter?

(CONTINUED)

JESSE

I'm just so.....

Pause.

JAMES

I'll be back in a while.

Jesse stares at James.

CUT TO:

23 INT. NIGHT. JIMMY PACHECO'S HOUSE.

Beth is making coffee in the kitchen, at 4:30 A.M.. James knocks on the door. Beth looks out and is shocked to see who it is. The door doesn't properly shut, so she moves a trophy that's acting as a doorstep out of the way, and she reluctantly opens the door.

BETH

James Aikman?

JAMES

Yeah. Hi Beth.

BETH

What are you doing here? It's four thirty in the morning.

JAMES

I didn't know if it was too late to bother you, or too early.

BETH

This is wierd. I mean, I haven't seen you since High School.

JAMES

Yeah. Long time. Can I come in for a second?

BETH

Make it fast. I don't want you to wake up my baby.

JAMES

Oh, right. Congratulations.

(CONTINUED)

BETH

Why are you here exactly?

JAMES

I saw the lights on. I thought it was Jimmy Pacheco.

BETH

Jimmy Pacheco is upstairs snoring. I came down here 'cause I couldn't sleep. What the hell do you want James?

JAMES

I....I....

Beth experiences the dawning of the apocalypse.

BETH

Oh my God. It's you. You and Jesse.

JAMES

Beth....

BETH

You're behind this. Oh my God.

JAMES

We never meant to hurt you.

BETH

Why? Why are you doing this?

JAMES

(Tearfully) I don't know.

BETH

You kidnapped my husband, you damn well better know!

JAMES

It was Jesse's idea. The kidnapping was the only way for the rescue to work.

BETH

What rescue?

JAMES

Yours.

(CONTINUED)

BETH

But I don't need rescuing.

JAMES

Not according to Jess.

BETH

He's delusional.

JAMES

No, no. He's not. In fact, he still loves you very much.

BETH

We were never lovers! We made out a few times. THAT'S IT!

JAMES

(Crying) I'm sorry.

BETH

Where is he?

JAMES

Jessse? He's in the car out front. I actually came to see if I could get some coffee for us.

BETH

Oh my God.

JAMES

Maybe I should go.

James starts to leave.

BETH

Wait. (Pause) I'll get your coffee.

Beth gets two mugs out and pours coffee.

BETH

I want him home you know. Unhurt.

JAMES

I know.

BETH

I want you to fix this.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

I'll try.

BETH

Uh huh. You'd better get back.

JAMES

Thanks for the coffees.

BETH

Goodbye James.

James leaves. Beth starts to cry. James knocks on the door again. She opens it.

JAMES

Do you have any milk?

CUT TO:

24 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP, 1 PM THAT AFTERNOON.

E.C.U. A Pair of scissors cutting hair. Aldo is working on Joey Villa's head again. Half his hair is shaved, the other is a tangled mess. Gloria plays with her Tarot cards.

ALDO

I'll tell ya, this would never happen in my family. I love my kids too much.

GLORIA

Awww come on Aldo. You don't even know how many kids we have.

ALDO

Go back to your tea leaves, or whatever the hell it is this week, Gloria. I'm conversing with Joey Villa.

GLORIA

What's our son Greg do?

ALDO

He's in Cleveland.

GLORIA

Well. You remembered Cleveland. He remembered Cleveland.

CUT TO:

25 INT. HIDEOUT. 4 PM.

James and Jimmy Pacheco are playing ball hockey, with a tennis ball. Jimmy Pacheco is firing shots on James. Neither of them is wearing his mask, but Jimmy Pacheco still wears a diaper on his head. Jesse enters.

JESSE

What the hell's goin' on?

JAMES

Mornin' Jess. Jimmy Pacheco and me were just playing some hockey.

JESSE

I see. (TO JIMMY PACHECO) Where'd you get the stick?

JIMMY PACHECO

It's yours Jesse. James said I could borrow it. Is that a problem?

JESSE

Yeah that's a problem.

JAMES

Jesse. We were just having fun.

JESSE

YOU DON'T TAKE THINGS THAT BELONG TO OTHER PEOPLE, JIMMY PACHECO!

JESSE slaps Jimmy Pacheco.

CUT TO:

26 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Aldo is destroying Joey's hair. Gloria is still playing with a Tarot deck.

ALDO

I love my kids I tell ya. Not like the Pachecos. It breaks my heart what they've done to Jimmy Pacheco.

(CONTINUED)

JOEY

Aldo. What is it that Jimmy Pacheco's family has done?

ALDO

They refused to pay the ransom.

JOEY

You're kidding.

ALDO

I never kid.

GLORIA

(Walking towards a customer.) Once you did.

ALDO

Once I did.

JOEY

Why would they refuse to pay?

CUT TO:

27 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Jimmy Pacheco's parents sit on two chairs waiting to get haircuts. They speak directly to camera. Aldo and Gloria tend to their customers during these declamations.

AL PACHECO

So we get this list....this crazy list, and a blurry polaroid of someone's knee. How are we supposed to know it's our son? I haven't seen my son's knee in twenty years!

MONICA PACHECO

It's his knee.

AL PACHECO

Suddenly you're a knee expert. Would you let me finish? So after a few days, naturally I become concerned. But I have to tell ya, not that I don't love our son.....

(CONTINUED)



MONICA PACHECO  
You don't love our son.

AL PACHECO  
OKAY! I DON'T LOVE OUR SON! There! I  
said it. ARE YOU HAPPY?

CUT TO:

28 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Carmen is sitting in Aldo's chair. She speaks  
directly to camera.

CARMEN  
My brother and me? It's like....I  
don't know....It's not like he's a bad  
person. It's.. ... he's like a non-  
person. He's like a ghost. And who  
gives a shit about a ghost?

CUT TO:

29 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Joe and Diane Silva sit in the same chairs as the  
pacheco parents did. They speak to camera.

JOE SILVA  
We love the Pacheco family very much.  
And when these horrible people called  
and demanded our double garage  
space.....well, I've always been  
hoping that someday I can buy back that  
corvette, and we'd be a family again.  
And in the cold light of day, Jimmy  
Pacheco is not worth a second corvette.

Diane grunts.

JOE SILVA  
(To Diane) You wanna say something?  
Okay. Write it down, and I'll read it.  
Go ahead.

Diane writes. Pause. She hands her note to joe.

JOE SILVA  
What's this say? I can't read this  
chicken scrawl. It's just scribble  
scribble dot dot.

CUT TO:

30 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Lynne the alcoholic sits in Aldo's barberchair.  
She talks to camera.

LYNNE

To be honest, when those kidnappers  
called, I don't remember what the hell  
I said.

CUT TO:

31 EXT. STREET. NIGHT. (DAY 3, 2 AM)

Jesse sits in car outside Jimmy Pacheco's house.

CUT TO:

32 INT. CAR.

Car door opens. It's Beth, dressed in a nightgown,  
work boots, and an oversized Lakers jacket. She  
closes door, and sits in passenger seat. She is  
carrying a baby monitor, which she places on the  
dashboard.

JESSE

What's that for?

BETH

I have a baby. Hello!

JESSE

Sorry.

BETH

Can you turn the heat down? It's too  
hot in here.

JESSE

No it's not.

BETH

Fine. Goodbye.

Beth grabs the monitor, opens her door and starts  
to leave.

(CONTINUED)

JESSE

Okay, okay. I'll turn it down. I'm sorry. Please stay. Please.

Beth closes door again.

JESSE

Could we start over?

BETH

Make it fast Jesse. I don't have a lot of time.

JESSE

You look beautiful.

BETH

Oh please. I have no makeup on, and I'm dressed like a bag lady. Don't con a con.

JESSE

I just meant you look as beautiful as I remembered you.

BETH

Jesse. That was a long time ago.

JESSE

I know.

BETH

People change.

JESSE

Not you Beth.

BETH

Yes me. Especially me. I'm not a nervous twitchy little girl anymore. I'm a mother, and a wife, and I like my life very much now.

JESSE

You deserve better Beth.

BETH

Hey. Jimmy Pacheco is not perfect. I know that. So we have problems. Everybody has problems. So?

(CONTINUED)

JESSE

Run away with me Beth. We'll go to Arizona and live on a houseboat.

BETH

Let me spell this out for you, okay? Maybe I felt something for you when we were kids. But that is OVER. Okay? It's OVER. Those feelings aren't relevant.

JESSE

Yes they are.

BETH

No they're not.

JESSE

Yes they are.

BETH

Shut up! It's Eduardo.

They listen to the baby monitor. Sounds of baby waking up, and snoring.

JESSE

That kid's a snorer.

BETH

That's my husband. Keep quiet!

They listen again. Baby sounds subside.

BETH

Okay, he's asleep again.

JESSE

Beth. About Jimmy Pacheco.....

BETH

I can't believe you did this.

JESSE

I did it for you Beth. To win your love.

BETH

My love is IN THAT HOUSE! You mean nothing to me Jesse. (PAUSE.) I'm sorry.

(CONTINUED)

JESSE  
You don't know sorry.

Pause.

JESSE  
GET OUT.

BETH  
FUCK YOU.

Beth grabs the monitor and leaves. Jesse is devastated and visibly angry.

CUT TO:

33 INT. HIDEOUT. 10 AM.

Jimmy Pacheco is strapped to a chair as James reads a tabloid. Their masks are off.

JAMES  
(To himself) Wow. Sharon Stone has cellulite.

Jesse enters, carrying a gas tank and a boom box.

JAMES  
Where have you been?

JIMMY PACHECO  
He's gonna torture me.

James looks horrified.

JESSE  
Jimmy Pacheco's right, James. I am gonna SLAUGHTER HIS FUCKING SOUL! Maybe his FUCKING FAMILY will see we mean FUCKING BUSINESS! Gag him and put his mask on.

James does so.

JAMES  
What are you so upset for?

JESSE  
They didn't go for it! They said no to everything. (To Jimmy Pacheco.) YOU HAVE A FUCKED UP FAMILY, JIMMY PACHECO!

(CONTINUED)

JAMES  
(To Jimmy Pacheco) I'm sorry.

JESSE  
What are you apologizing for? I haven't done anything yet.

JAMES  
I know.

JESSE  
Wait until AFTER I've done something. You don't apologize BEFORE I've done something. You wait until AFTER!

JAMES  
I'm sorry.

JESSE  
Put the tape on.

James turns on the boom box. Jesse expects to hear the tune, "Stuck In The Middle With You". Instead, out blares Ravel's "Bolero". He shoots James a dirty look.

JAMES  
Sorry, Jess. I must have taped over something.

Jesse slowly dances over to Jimmy Pacheco. He methodically pours gas all over Jimmy Pacheco, as he moves to the beat of the song. Jesse reaches for his matches in his suit. Can't find any. He checks all his pockets. Nothing.

JESSE  
Where are my matches? (To James) Did you take my matches?

JAMES  
No.

JESSE  
Where the hell are they then?

JAMES  
I don't know.

(CONTINUED)

JESSE  
You don't know. You mean, you don't  
care. Gimme your lighter.

JAMES  
I don't have it.

JESSE  
Where is it?

JAMES  
I threw it away.

JESSE  
What did you do that for? We need it!

JAMES  
I quit smoking last week. So I threw  
it away.

JESSE  
OH GREAT! HOW ARE WE GOING TO SET HIM  
ON FIRE IF WE DON'T HAVE ANY MATCHES OR  
A FUCKING LIGHTER? HMMM???!!!!!!!  
(Pause) My head is pounding.

Long pause. Silence. Jesse and James just stare  
at Jimmy Pacheco in the chair. Finally Jesse  
speaks.

JESSE  
Now what do we do?

JAMES  
We'll change our demands again. Stretch  
it out for a few more days.

JESSE  
It's over James. There's gonna be no  
more demands.

JAMES  
So? Then we cut our losses and let him  
walk. Everybody goes home happy.

JESSE  
No can do.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

What's the alternative? We kill him?

Jesse stares at James..

CUT TO:

33A JIMMY PACHECO'S P.O.V.

Staring intently through his mask. Camera swivels from Jesse's voice to James's and so on.

CUT TO:

33B C.U. JAMES.

JAMES

Oh no Jesse. We said from the outset we wouldn't go down that road.

JESSE

We've been on that road from the beginning, you dink!

JAMES

(Crying) Oh no. We can't.

JESSE

He knows us James. He can identify us! We've committed a felony. We will go to prison for a LONG FUCKING TIME! We don't have a choice here.

JAMES

(In tears) I HATE YOU! HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?

JESSE

It's what we do.

JAMES

You speak for yourself, damn it! I AM NOT LIKE YOU!

JESSE

I'm going to kill him James. End of discussion.

(CONTINUED)



JAMES

Like hell you are!

James pulls out a gun and starts to walk towards Jesse. James slips on some gas puddle on the floor. As he hits the floor his gun goes off, hitting Jesse. Jesse collapses on the floor.

JESSE

You shot me, you asshole.

JAMES

I'm sorry.

Jesse goes limp and collapses.

JAMES

Oh my God! Oh my God!

James scrambles over to Jesse and hugs him. Unfortunately, Jesse is still holding his gun, and it accidentally goes off, shooting James in the back. Jimmy is left in the chair, bound and gagged. He is still. He looks at where Jesse is. Then to James. Back to Jesse. Then James. Slowly we hear a faint short scream. It grows progressively louder and louder and louder until it erupts into two different but equally intense screams, which we recognize as coming from Jesse and James. James is crying and Jesse is now jumping around holding his side where a blank charge singed him.

JESSE

Ow! My fucking side!

JAMES

I think my back's on fire!

JESSE

Why did you put blanks in? Why?

JAMES

I don't know!

JESSE

Holy shit! You're on fire! Pacheco!  
Get some water!

(CONTINUED)

JIMMY PACHECO

I can't...

Jesse frees him.

JESSE

Water! Ice! Get some water! (James  
howls in pain) It's alright.  
Everything's gonna be alright.

JAMES

I'm sorry Jesse.

JESSE

No. No. It's okay. We're alive. We're  
gonna be okay.

Jesse yells off to Jimmy Pacheco who has split.

JESSE

WHERE'S THAT FUCKING WATER?

CUT TO:

34 INT. ALDO'S BARBERSHOP.

Gloria sits with Tarot cards and speaks to camera.

GLORIA

My Aldo once left a World Series game  
at Yankee Stadium to be with me. Love  
will make a man do crazy things hon.  
Crazy, stupid things. Just what this  
world needs - more stupid men.

CAMERA CUTS TO BLACK.

THE END.