

NOTORIOUS

ROLE
26.
OF
"RYAN"

LOUISE
Viewers, this is a BMW i8 key.

LEVI
(furious)
That's not mine. Someone put it on
my key chain.

However, because we're tight on Louise and Levi's mic is off, we
only hear and see Louise. The evidence appears damning.

JULIA
Go to commercial.

LOUISE
And we'll be right back.

JULIA
(to a near-by staffer)
Clip it for the morning shows and
digital.

Jake heads in to the studio to check on Levi.

JAKE
Nice job, Levi.

LEVI
You son-of-a-bitch. You set me up.

JAKE
Relax, we all know you didn't hit
the kid. That's not even Oscar's car
key... But like you said, anything
for Oscar, right?

Jake walks away, leaving a stunned Levi behind.

EXT. THE ANGELICA BAR - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

On the ground floor of the Gregorian office building.

INT. THE ANGELICA - NIGHT

A few patrons mill about. Ryan enters, eyes his PHONE, where he
has JAKE'S FIRM'S WEBSITE pulled up. A photo of the firm's
attorneys, including Ella, whom we met earlier.

He matches the photo with A WOMAN AT THE BAR; she's alone and
READING a HEFTY BOOK. Ryan checks out her outfit on approach.

RYAN
A dark fitted suit, stud earrings,
close-toed shoes. Let me guess,
you're an attorney.

ELLA
And you're a fashion expert?

(6 pages)

→
SCENE
I

1/6

RYAN

Three sisters and my mother's a lawyer.

ELLA

You're cute, but I'm reading.

He reads the book's title. Flashes her a smile.

RYAN

The Economics of Corporate Law. If you don't give me five minutes, I'm gonna ruin the ending.

Ella can't help but smile. She might think he's smug, but she's intrigued and he's sexy...

ELLA

One drink.

INT. THE ANGELICA - LATER THAT NIGHT

A few empty glasses sit on the bar, along with Ella's forgotten book and Ryan's CELL, lit up with a new text.

ELLA

Your phone's been blowing up. Your girlfriend's gonna be pretty mad.

RYAN

Don't have a girlfriend. It's my dad.
(checks his phone)
Seven texts, two emails, and a voicemail about Sunday dinner. I should've moved to the East Coast.

Before she can respond, her CELL RINGS. She eyes her CALLER ID: A PHOTO OF JAKE.

ELLA

I gotta answer mine.
(into her cell)
Hey Boss, what's up?

INTERCUT WITH: INT. GREGORIAN & GREGORIAN - BULLPEN - NIGHT

~~JAKE~~

~~The police are done with Oscar's car. Bradley's outside. I want you to go with him to the impound lot.~~

ELLA

I'll be right out.

She hangs up and turns back to Ryan, grabbing her stuff.

ELLA (CONT'D)

Gotta go.

2/6

RYAN
Can I get your number --

But she's gone. Ryan takes a beat, then finishes his beer in one sip, lays a hundred-dollar bill on the bar, and PURSUES ELLA.

INT. PIERRO'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Julia and Eric at an intimate table, finishing their meal.

ERIC
...Twenty-nine judges waiting on Senate action. Sixty-seven vacancies.

JULIA
I know.

ERIC
Thirty judgeships with a backlog a hundred cases deep.

JULIA
I know that too.

ERIC
Why not do a show about our judicial system run amok?

JULIA
Not very sexy.

ERIC
That's why you invite a sexy federal judge to be the guest.

JULIA
Where would I find someone like that?

He smiles and leans in for a kiss. They're interrupted by his CELL, a text CHIRPS. He grabs it and reads --

ERIC
Damn it. Gwinn wants an emergency bail hearing. I gotta go.

JULIA
Right now? I thought we'd go back to my place. I made dessert.
(off his dubious look)
I defrosted a pie. That counts.

ERIC
Sorry, babe. Justice calls.

She's understanding. He kisses her one last time. As he exits --

INT./EXT. JULIA'S CAR - NIGHT

Julia, still in pain, pulls into her driveway. As she exits her car, she's shocked to find Ryan on her doorstep. Ryan's timing couldn't be worse, and Julia unloads her displaced anger --

→
START

JULIA

Are you kidding me? Ryan, what are you doing at my house?

RYAN

I have something to --

JULIA

Did your dad give you my address? Because this is completely inappropriate. I'm gonna call him.

RYAN

(holds up his cell)
Look at this!

Julia stops. Eyes his phone. A PHOTO OF ELLA WITH THE COCAINE.

JULIA

That's Ella Benjamin.

RYAN

And she's holding cocaine. I followed her to the impound lot. It was in Oscar's car.

Julia's expression changes from dejection to ferocity.

JULIA

I need you to go, now.

Ryan starts to head off, Julia calls after him.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Ryan... Good job.

Off Ryan's smile --

INT. JAKE'S TOWN CAR - MINUTES LATER

Jake's being driven home. A partition separates him from the driver. He's on a speaker phone while looking at the Ella-Cocaine photo on his iPad, emailed from Julia.

JAKE

What's it going to take to keep the photo off your show?

INTERCUT WITH: INT. JULIA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Julia paces as she talks with Jake --

SCENE
2

STOP

4/6

ACT FOURINT. LHL - RECEPTION/HALLWAY - DAY

Jake and Ella wait.

JAKE

Julia wants to talk logistics for Sarah's interview tomorrow. I need you to back me up and take notes.

STAFFER

Mr. Gregorian, Julia's ready for you.

As they walk toward Julia's office, Ella spots Ryan in the Breakroom. They lock eyes. She's floored. *She had no idea he worked here!* Just then, Julia approaches.

JULIA

Thanks for coming.

(re: Ella)

I need Jake for a second, in private.

As soon as Jake heads off with Julia, Ella beelines into --

INT. LHL - BREAKROOM - CONTINUOUS

Full of steam, Ella charges up to Ryan who's pouring a soda.

ELLA

You... You work here!?

RYAN

I do. And I never got your number.

ELLA

You followed me? You met me at the bar, pretended to hit on me, and then you followed me. That's how Julia got the photo.

RYAN

All true. And seriously, I owe you.

ELLA

You're a jerk, you know that?

RYAN

You would've done the same thing -- for a client or to *impress your boss*.
(as she softens)
And I wasn't pretending to hit on you... Come on, let me take you out for dinner. Who knows? Maybe you could turn the tables and use me for something.

START →

SCENE
3
/

5/6

ELLA
What would I possibly use you for?

RYAN
(sexy smile)
Whatever you want.

As Ella turns and walks away, we see that she's smiling.

INT. LHL - JULIA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Julia faces off with Jake --

JULIA
I want Sarah on the show tonight.

JAKE
Our deal is for tomorrow.

JULIA
She won't be available tomorrow.

JAKE
Wait, what do you know?

A stalemate. Neither knows how much the other knows. Finally --

JULIA
Sarah Keaton isn't going to be available, because an arrest warrant will be issued in the morning. Jake, she drove that car.

JAKE
No. No way.
(off her nod)
Are you sure? How do you know?

JULIA
I saw surveillance tape. She'll be on the show tonight, right?

JAKE
(nods)
I gotta go.

As he EXITS, we HOLD on Julia, happy to be a step ahead of Jake. Then, a beat. Her CELL RINGS. CALLER ID: A PHOTO of LOUISE.

JULIA
Hello?

INTERCUT WITH: EXT. SHUTTERS HOTEL ROOM - BALCONY - SAME TIME

Louise, in a bathing suit, eats the fruit arrangement, as Imran, half-naked, rubs oil on her back.

6/6