BIALY / THOMAS CASTING

DANNY

Unless you want speeches

SOPHIE

No no no. I'm good. I better go.

DANNY

Love ya.

SOPHIE

SOFILE

END SPLIT-SCREEN as they hang up and Sophie is passing Max's open door. She stops and backtracks.

INT. MAX'S OFFICE- AFTERNOON

Me, too.

The place looks like a tornado hit it, Max is cleaning up after an especially violent session with the fighting couple. Sophie marches in and grabs her mug.

SOPHIE

Why do you keep taking this? And this...

She removes the CD, now encased in a plastic bag.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

...is sticky.

MAX

"Sticky...Fingers". (off her glare) Ok, I'm sorry, I maybe got some syrup on it.

SOPHIE

And it just so happens that Danny is smart, and good-looking, and considerate...

MAX

What are you talking about?

SOPHIE

Yesterday, you wanted to know what's so great about Danny, so...

MAX

So...it took you a whole day to come up with something?

SOPHIE

What is your problem?

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MAX

I don't have a problem. And, for the record, I am <u>not</u> a commitmentphobe. I happen to have been in several long-term relationships.

SOPHIE

Sure, if long-term means 4 weeks.

MAX

I've been seeing Renee for two months.

SOPHIE

That's because she lives 3000 miles away.

MAX

So our relationship isn't perfect. Relationships aren't supposed to be perfect. That's the problem with you and Danny...

SOPHIE

Danny and I don't have any problems. I'm very happily engaged.

MAX

Anybody can get engaged.

This stops her for a moment. Then:

SOPHIE

<u>And</u>...we're buying a house. Probably today, even.

MAX

Good for you. Don't let the door hit your ass on the way out. And here, take your pen, too.

He tosses it and it hits her in the head. She looks furious.

MAX (CONT'D)

Sorry, I didn't mean to...

Suddenly, a pillow hits him in the face. He hurls it back.

SOPHIE

Cut it out...

She grabs one of the plastic bats and whacks him in the arm.

MAX

(grabbing the other bat)
You cut it out...

SOPHIE

(raising the bat again) I'm not kidding.

MAX

I dare you.

She takes a wild swing, and he swings back. They start pummelling each other with the bats. Suddenly, mid-fight:

MAN (0.S.)

There she is!

They both turn to see AL, Sophie's father, 60's, perfect silver hair, dark tan, white teeth, grinning, arms spread.

AL.

Gimme a hug, honey!

Sophie doesn't move, Al turns and grabs Max in a big hug.

AL (CONT'D)

And this must be the infamous Danny! Don't worry, when she was a kid she had temper tantrums all the time, it just means she loves you!

Sophie grabs her father and drags him from the room.

INT. SOPHIE'S OFFICE- CONTINUOUS

Sophie pushes him inside.

SOPHIE

I'll be right back. Don't touch anything.

INT. RECEPTIONIST DESK- MORNING

Sophie marches up to Jennifer, who beams at her:

JENNIFER

Surprise! Oh, and your 2 o'clock is here.

Sophie leans on the edge of Jennifer's desk.

47.

INT. ELEVATOR- MOMENTS LATER

Sophie is on the elevator, pushing the button. The doors are closing, George and Jennifer watching from the hallway, Sophie is a little nervous to leave him, and he is a little nervous to see her go. George's POV:

FLASH ON: the elevator speeding towards the ground, Sophie tumbling and screaming...

CUT TO:

EXT. JAIL- AFTERNOON

Sophie is marching out to her car, trailed by Lucy, who is brushing off her clothes and making an "ew" face.

40 ct

LUCY

God, why do they have to keep it so dirty? (catching up to Sophie)
Listen, I'll pay you back, I
swear...

SOPHIE

(turning on her)
How? How are you going to pay me back?

Lucy is a little surprised to be confronted on this.

LUCY

Um, well, maybe not with money, but I could help redesign your apartment, I'm really creative with fabrics...

SOPHIE

No. You're not.

Sophie gets into her car.

INT. SOPHIE'S CAR- CONTINUOUS

Lucy climbs into the passenger seat as Sophie hits on the ignition.

LUCY

I don't know what's wrong with you. I'm the one who had to spend an hour and a half sitting next to a woman with no teeth...

Sophie turns off the car.

48.

SOPHIE

(exploding)

You wanna know what's wrong with me? Do you?

LUCY

Um...maybe not.

SOPHIE

What's wrong with me is that I'm tired of having to take care of everything.

LUCY

I tried Dad, but there was no answer.

SOPHIE

Of course there was no answer.

Don't you get it? He isn't there
when you actually need him. Buying
you watches does not constitute a
relationship. I'm the one who takes
care of things, and once in a while
I'd like someone to take care of
me.

The sisters stare at each other, both of them a little taken aback by this admission.

LUCY

But...how are we supposed to take care of you when you always act like you have it all under control?

SOPHIE

(fumbling)

I just want...

LUCY

You know what? I don't think you have a clue what you want. (getting out) I'll walk, thanks.

//

Sophie is left alone in the car. She slowly leans forward, resting her head on the steering wheel.

INT. SOPHIE'S OFFICE- LATER

Sophie is seated next to George, who has his head in his hands.

GEORGE

You're disappointed in me.

ACT FOUR

EXT. FREEWAY OVERPASS- EARLY EVENING

Start Sc. 3 Sophie is up on the overpass now, too, carefully moving closer to Lila, who is holding the rail with one hand, her body partially leaning out towards the freeway.

SOPHIE

Ok. Everything's Ok.

Sophie takes a fearful look down.

SOPHIE (V.O.) (CONT'D) We're gonna die, we're gonna die...

Sophie fixes her eyes on Lila.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
You don't want to do this, Lila.

LILA

(re: the cars)
None of them even know I'm up here.
They're all in their own little
worlds.

FLASH ON: inside a Volvo, a Mom soundlessly yelling at her kids...

FLASH ON: inside a Camaro, two tattooed guys, bopping their heads to a beat we can't hear...

FLASH ON: inside a BMW, a man in a suit, speaking earnestly into a phone headset...

LILA (CONT'D)

It's strange how you can be all alone, in a city full of people.

Lila turns to look at Sophie.

LILA (CONT'D)
I never used to feel alone. Even
when my husband was away, I knew he
was with me, you know? But now he's
really gone. (eyes tearing up) And

I don't know how to do anything without him.

FLASH ON: Lila in her home, the rooms completely empty, the walls and floors bare.

SOPHIE

Tell me what happened. After you put the things away.

LILA

I went from room to room. Trying to get it back.

SOPHIE

Get what back?

LILA

That feeling. Of being safe. I ended up in his closet, curled up in the corner like a crazy person.

SOPHIE

(realizing)

You were there when I came by.

Lila nods tearfully.

LILA

And then, just now, I couldn't take it anymore. And I just started to run. And ended up here. So this must be what I meant to do.

SOPHIE

You forgot something. You called me. You brought my card with you, and called me. Which means this isn't what you want.

Sophie moves a little closer.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Listen: sometimes we lie to ourselves.

As Sophie speaks, she starts to realize something:

FLASH ON: Sophie, in Danny's car, telling him:

SOPHIE (CONT D)

Everything's great.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Because we're not ready to face the truth.

Lila is watching Sophie closely.

FLASH ON: Sophie, in Max's office, telling him:

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