

Light up on a park where Jody (20) sits on a bench. SHE LOOKS AT HER WATCH, SEEMING TO BE A BIT NERVOUS. AFTER A BEAT, KATE (20s) ENTERS, LOOKING OUT AT THE AUDIENCE AS JODY LOOKS DIRECTLY AT HER. JODY QUICKLY STRAIGHTENS HER APPEARANCE AND THEN OFFERS:

JODY: Kate?

KATE LOOKS OVER AT HER AND SMILES, MOVING TO THE BENCH.

KATE: Jody?

JODY: Yeah, hi. Thanks for meeting me all the way out here. I hope it wasn't any trouble.

KATE: No, no it's fine.

THERE IS AN AWKWARD SILENCE BETWEEN THEM, THEN...

KATE: Well, uh, I don't mean to rush you, but I have a really tight schedule...

JODY: Hey, did you book a job? Congratulations!

KATE: No, I didn't get a job. I'm...actually, I'm moving.

JODY: New York? Chicago?

KATE: No, back to New Jersey. This whole acting thing just...it didn't work out for me and after taking a long, painstaking look at myself, I realized there had to be more to life...my life.

JODY: Oh.

KATE: What am I doing? I'm standing here and depressing another actor.

JODY: No, no, you're not. I'm just a little surprised. When I saw you at that audition for "Daddy's Little Girls" I just knew you had "it."

KATE: Apparently I didn't have enough of "it" to even get a callback for that. And if that wasn't a bad enough day, I go and leave my cell phone sitting on the lobby couch.

JODY: Right where I found it.

KATE LOOKS AT HER WATCH.

KATE: It's getting late. I gotta get going.

JODY: It was nice to meet you.

KATE: You too.

JODY: And good luck in Jersey.

KATE: Thank you. (BEAT) My phone?

JODY REALIZES AND THEN SMILES, TURNING TO HER BAG. SHE PULLS OUT A CELL PHONE, HANDING IT TO KATE.

KATE: Thanks again for finding it and taking the effort to get in touch with me. I appreciate it.

JODY: You're welcome.

KATE: You know, under different circumstances, who knows? We might have been friends.

JODY: I'd have liked that.

KATE: Yeah. Well, good luck to you. Hope you get that "big break"

JODY: I already did.

KATE: Oh?

JODY: Yeah, I just booked something.

KATE: My gosh, why didn't you say something? That's fantastic.

JODY: Yeah.

KATE: You are the only person I have ever actually known in four years, four years, to do that!

JODY: It's nothing really.

KATE: So it's just some small guest spot?

JODY: Uh, no, it's the lead, well, one of the leads.

KATE: One of the leads?! That just...that's just great. You deserve it, I'm sure of it. So what show is it?

JODY: It's uh...well, it's "Daddy's little Girls."

KATE: You're kidding!

JODY: No...

KATE: One of the leads? Well, you must have done a lot better with that casting woman than I did!

JODY: Actually...

KATE: You landed a dream job!

JODY: Actually, um...

KATE: You did! Admit it! You have the dream job!

JODY STARES AT KATE FOR A LONG BEAT, THEN...

JODY: Well, truth be told, I'm not the only one with the "dream job."

KATE: If you think there's someone else out there who's landed a better...

JODY: There is...

KATE: There is what?

JODY: You.

THEY BOTH JUST LOOK AT ONE ANOTHER. KATE CONFUSED...

KATE: Me? What about me?

JODY: You have the dream job, too... sorta technically. (BEAT) You didn't do as bad as you thought at the audition.

KATE: What audition?

JODY: "Daddy's Little Girls." Lois, the casting director, thought you did pretty damn good.

KATE: No, she didn't. I didn't even get a call...

KATE STOPS IN MID-SENTENCE, LOOKING DOWN AT HER CELLPHONE.

KATE: ...back.

SHE LOOKS UP AT JODY, WHO IS NOW DOING EVERYTHING SHE CAN NOT TO MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH HER.

KATE: Oh, my God...

JODY: I can explain...

KATE: Oh, my God...

JODY: You left your phone on that couch, they called you that afternoon, just after I found your phone, and I hadn't even had the chance to call the cellular phone company people and find out who you were, and the next thing I knew, I found myself in their offices doing your... our callback and then that night, again before I could find out who you were and tell you, I was so busy calling my mom and dad and sister and all, they called me, us, into see the producers and when that was over, I was on my way out the door and was gonna call to find out everything I could to, you know, return you phone, but then, they came running down to me, us, asking for a screen test right then and there, and suddenly, it was almost midnight, and we were so exhausted from it all, I mean, you gotta admit, everything happened so quickly, that we went home an right to bed. We got the call in the morning. We...booked it.

JODY FINALLY MAKES EYE CONTACT WITH KATE.

JODY: So, what time does your flight leave for New Jersey?

KATE: Oh, my God... you...you stole my part.

JODY: I did not steal your part. I got our part.

KATE: That was my audition that got the callback.

JODY: But it was my callback that got the meeting with the producers and the screen test. Clearly, I did the bulk of the work here.

KATE: How the hell did you pass for me?

JODY: Lois saw a lot of girls that morning.

KATE: What about my 8x10?!

JODY: I told her it was a couple months old.

KATE: You stole my callback! You stole my producer's meeting! You stole my screen test! You stole my 8x10!

JODY: No, she already had your 8x10. Remember, you gave it to her.

KATE: This can't be happening. This should not be happening!

JODY: Look, you gotta calm down...

KATE: Calm down?! You took everything I've ever wanted! You have it all!

JODY: No, not all of it. OK, sure, I'll be the face everyone sees on Must-See-Thursdays, but hey, it's your name they'll be seeing on the credits!

KATE: You stole my name too?!

JODY: I had to add a middle initial, you know, SAG rules and all. You like the letter "B," right?

KATE: Oh my God...

KATE GETS UP AND STARTS WALKING AROUND, TRYING TO GET A HOLD OF HERSELF.

JODY: Really, this is not a big deal.

KATE: Not a big deal?! Did you think I wasn't going to find out? I watch TV! OK, OK, I tell you what we're going to do: You and I are going down to James Burrows office and you're going to tell him what you did.

JODY: Now you're talking just plain crazy.

KATE: I'm crazy?!

JODY: Think of how it's going to sound when we go into his office and tell him what we've done. We'll never work in this town again. There's got to be a better way.

KATE: OK, sure, right...like what?

JODY: Well, you said yourself that you gave up this whole "acting thing."

KATE: But...

JODY: No buts, Kate. It was drowning your soul, remember?

KATE: "Drowning my soul?" I just said I couldn't get a part.

JODY: I can't let you do this, Kate. I won't! I wouldn't be a friend if I did. You're getting out! I tell you what, you continue on in your happy non-acting life, move to the other coast and you still get your name on the screen and I'll even throw in 15% of what I make as a gesture of thanks and goodwill.

KATE: 15%?!!

JODY: OK. 20.

KATE: 90!

JODY: Be reasonable, Kate! 22!

KATE: 88!

JODY: Oh for the love of God! I've done all the ground work to make this happen for you! I'm the one having to learn your lines, having to go to your table reads, having to sit through your hellish press tours and publicity stunts. What about me, Kate? What about my needs? 24% and that's as high as I'll go!

KATE: 50/50 and I won't report you to the police, the guild and Warren Littlefield!

JODY: You've got yourself a deal!

THEY SHAKE HANDS